

BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XVIII NO. 32 AUGUST 11, 1988

1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019



Dore Alley Fair

Thousands enjoyed a sunny Sunday afternoon Aug. 7 when South of Market hosted the annual shindig presented by Up Your Alley Productions. For more on the fair, see Mr. Marcus, starting on page 32.

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

Leaders Urge Donors: 'Write Protest Letters To Irwin Blood Bank'

Directors Supportive of Castro Blood Drive

by Allen White

Lesbian and gay leaders urged community members Tuesday to write letters of support for a return of blood drives to the Castro neighborhood. The appeal came as Irwin Memorial Blood Bank's board of directors planned a meeting for Aug. 11 to discuss an issue which was highlighted by recent demands from a San Francisco physician who wants to keep the blood drives out of the predominately gay and lesbian Castro.

Dr. Lorraine Day, a surgeon at San Francisco General Hospital, recently had threatened a "media war" unless Irwin discontinued blood drives in the Castro. Day was successful in her campaign, which she took to several media outlets in the area. A result was that several local news organizations reported that "gays were giving blood in the Castro."

Since Day's demands started, Irwin relocated its blood drive to its own offices, 15 blocks from the Castro. But Lenore Chinn, coordinator of the AIDS/ARC Blood Fund for the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, said the blood bank has opened the doors of communication in the dispute.

"Irwin Memorial is bending over backwards to help us," said Chinn. "Dr. [Herbert] Perkins recommends returning the blood drive to the Castro, but he also

(Continued on page 23)

Stamp Out AIDS!

Artist, Mayor Hope Feds Will Expedite Approval of a Very Special Stamp

by Dennis McMillan

Mayor Art Agnos has requested that Postmaster General Anthony Frank expedite federal approval of a special issue AIDS awareness postage stamp. Thought up a year ago, the idea came from a registered nurse in Madison, Wisconsin.

Jean Anne Hlavacek designed and submitted the stamp logo, with the words "AIDS" in the internationally recognized circle with a slash through it, signifying "stop." The words "research, compassion, education, and prevention" border the stamp.

Agnos sent a letter on official city stationery to the recently

appointed San Franciscan postmaster after he heard about the AIDS stamp proposal on a local radio station. "As a San Franciscan, you undoubtedly know the toll AIDS has taken on our city, both physically and emotionally," he wrote.

The mayor added, "What

(Continued on page 3)

Life With Father

San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers Expands Their Horizons

by Mary Richards

San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers held a banquet at Don Ramon's on Sunday, Aug. 7, to present their Second Annual "Pappie" Award of Excellence to Dr. Don Clark, psychologist, author, and father of two children.

Clark, obviously pleased with the honor, said, "It's the first award I've ever received. I couldn't be happier! I'm tickled pink, or tickled lavender, as the case may be!"

The first recipient of the award was Dr. Tom Waddell, founder of Gay Games. Clark was honored for "the positive image he has consistently displayed as a gay parent." *Loving Someone Gay*, his book published 13 years ago, is considered to be a minor classic of its kind, and has sold nearly a half million copies.

Clark said his latest work, *As We Are*, "took three years of

blood, sweat and tears" to complete. "Essentially, it's about what it means to us to be gay people now, what it has meant in the past and where I think we're going in the future."

Not all the gay fathers in this organization, the first and oldest of its kind in the nation, are in the limelight. Most hold regular jobs, are members of other gay groups, and have the experiences of parenting in common.

Gary Bozzini is a past president of Gay Fathers and has been with the group for four years. "The most wonderful thing that happened to me this year," he says, "is that my 13-year-old daughter Christina went to the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade with me. I didn't realize what a powerful statement that would be for me. It was wonderful. I was walking on air."

Marching in the parade with his daughter Nicole brought a



Don Clark (l.) receives the annual Gay Fathers Award of Excellence from Pres. Ed Esclovon.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

similar reaction from Richard Sharpnack. He calls the experience "overwhelming," and says, "I sometimes think straight parents don't have the same opportunity I do for their children to make a statement about their lifestyle, and that's what I felt she did."

SAME PROBLEMS

On the other hand, he says, "It's no different being a single parent if you're gay. You still have the same problems. Children tend to pick issues with their parents anyway, so the gay issue tends to be the focus. If it wasn't that, it might have been something else. I think you deal with it in the same way you deal with anything your children object to about you."

Gay Fathers was a direct outgrowth of the parade, ever since the first eight members

(Continued on page 3)

TESTING HIV POSITIVE COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE.

Having your worst fears confirmed may not sound like good news but maybe it really is. Why? Because many physicians who have worked with the AIDS virus now believe that early detection and treatment to prevent the deterioration of the immune system (T-4 Helper Cells) is the best course of action to slow or stop the progression to AIDS or ARC.

Research indicates that **left untreated**, over 70% of those infected with the HIV virus will eventually develop AIDS or ARC.

The sooner you know if you are HIV Positive the sooner you can start taking positive action that could save your life.

GET TESTED

Testing is now widely available. The San Francisco Department of Public Health has several neighborhood sites that offer **confidential, free, anonymous**, testing and counseling. For information and appointment schedules telephone 415-621-4858.

If your test shows that you are not infected be sure to get retested periodically. Sometimes the HIV antibody doesn't show up for three years after infection. It's important to keep checking so that if you do contract the HIV virus you can combat the infection in its early stages.

GET TREATED

If you do test positive there are many resources available to help you with the medical and the psychological impact of HIV infection. For example, the community group, Project Inform, offers a free hotline service which can help provide you with the information you need to plan a course of action. Call 558-9051 in S.F. or use the toll free lines 1-800-822-7422 (National) or 1-800-334-7422 in California.

Positive Action HealthCare, the nation's largest clinic dealing with HIV immune disorders, is one of the resources you should consider. The Positive Action HealthCare clinic is now serving hundreds of HIV Positive patients with a program of preventive medicine devoted to maintaining the health of their immune systems at a level that may be sufficient to ward off the onset of infections associated with AIDS and ARC.

Each patient's individualized program is developed with his Positive Action HealthCare physician based on the initial examination and is reevaluated on a regular basis.

Potential new therapies are closely monitored by Positive Action HealthCare and as they show evidence of effectiveness they will be added to the treatment depending upon each patient's needs.

The Positive Action HealthCare treatment is not a cure for AIDS. This treatment is intended primarily for patients who are HIV Positive and who have not yet developed serious symptoms of AIDS or ARC.

The Positive Action HealthCare medical group is headed by Alan S. Levin, M.D., assisted by a staff of scientists and physicians who are specialists in the treatment of problems of the immune system and have published numerous medical and scientific documents in this field. Dr. Levin has served as Adjunct Associate Professor of Immunology at the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center. In private practice in San Francisco since 1981, he established Positive Action HealthCare in 1987 to deal specifically with immune disorders related to the HIV virus.



450 Sutter Street, Suite 1138 • San Francisco, CA 94108 • 415-788-7545



Jim Weldon with his daughter Vicki. (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Gay Dads

(Continued from page 1)

marched behind their banner 13 years ago. A national umbrella group for all other gay parenting groups in the nation, The Gay and Lesbian Parenting Coalition, has since been formed. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., it helps to alert politicians to gay and lesbian concerns.

Ed Esclovon has two children and is president of Gay Fathers. "Even though people don't notice us and don't see us," he claims, "we're there and we're lobbying. At the Democratic Convention we had audiences with Michael Dukakis and Jessie Jackson to present our issues, not only as being gay men and women, but as being gay parents."

Single parents often need support, and Gay Fathers is there to address the issues people are most concerned about. "We are trying to expand our horizons," Esclovon acknowledges, "not only from just being gay parents from a heterosexual marriage. We're also trying to get to gay men who want to become parents, or who are parents through alternative means (co-parenting or artificial insemination). They don't need the support as far as dealing with ex-wives, but they do need support as far as raising their children."

TOUCHY SUBJECT

Ex-wives can be a touchy subject with gay men who have to break up their homes to pursue a different lifestyle. In September, Gay Fathers will present an "ExWives" program to its members, where six women will share the coming out process they experienced after their husbands left. Esclovon admits that, "It's going to be a real eye-opener for most of us!"

Father's Day beer busts, benefits, and social events keep the group busy most of the time, and when it gets too hectic they retreat to relax twice a year. Member Jim Weldon usually joins the retreat, and says, "I went to a workshop they had on Coming Out to Your Children. Through (listening to their experiences) I made a decision that I wanted to come out to my daughter Vicki as soon as possible. I got a lot of support from the group, and I'm out now, and everybody's fine."

Vicki and her dad were at the banquet together, and had a minor dispute as to exactly what year this coming out process took place. Fourteen-year-old Vicki won the debate easily, and afterwards said she has attended many of the Gay Fathers events. "There

are a lot of nice people," she said with a smile, "and I have a lot of fun!"

Gay Fathers meets the first Sunday of each month from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers Street (at Caselli). Interested people are always welcome to drop in at a meeting or contact the group at 584 Castro St., #611, SF 94114, (415) 841-0306.

Stamp

(Continued from page 1)

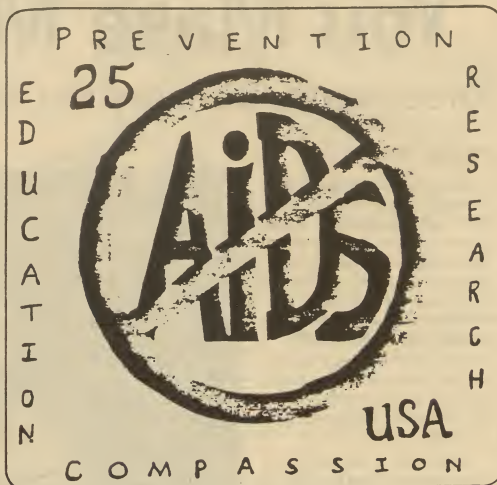
makes San Francisco so special is that we have realized AIDS is everyone's problem—and everyone wants to be part of the response."

Agnos hopes to raise such local consciousness to a nationwide scope.

All new United States postage stamps must undergo a lengthy approval process from the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee that generally takes two years duration and a great deal of competition among other future stamp submissions. The committee bases its approval on such criteria as national interest and historical perspective.

"I understand the complexities of approving new stamps," Agnos added, "but I believe that the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the AIDS epidemic, and the opportunity for this stamp to make a difference, provide compelling reasons to expedite the process."

According to Hlavacek, "If you have a design or message you feel would be better able to convey AIDS information to humanity, I want to emphasize that it is the message, and not the design or



the designer, which will be important."

Support for the stamp comes from many disparate viewpoints, endorsements ranging from such extremes as Surgeon General C. Everett Koop to U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms and from Gov. Michael Dukakis to Vice President George Bush. Senator Alan Cranston is also pushing for the

stamp, as its the National Hemophilia Foundation.

Hlavacek added that "Many fellow Americans feel that their voices go unheard. I feel that it is essential to take the risk that someone just might listen."

Should the Post Office approve, this could be a wonderful effort to literally help stamp out AIDS.

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 GARAGE!**

by Allen White

As the singers finished their sets onstage, the announcement was made that a special guest for the night was Sylvester. Sitting above the audience in a balcony seat, he waved to the crowd below. With the artist were many close friends and colleagues from his recording career.



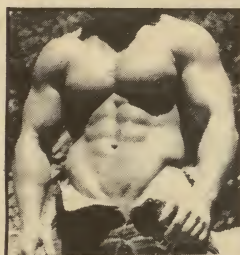
Sylvester

(Photo: Rink)

A few minutes later, Sylvester walked down to a waiting car. With McKenna at the wheel, they drove off into the warm summer night. ●

At about 10 p.m., a special moment began to unfold at the Dreamland dance palace. The sounds of "You Make Me Feel Mighty Real" began to be heard. It was that song, with "Dance,

Scheduled for discussion at this year's board meeting are proposals to continue and expand the World Congress' successful public education project within the Jewish community; to ensure recognition of gay and lesbian victims of the Holocaust in memorials and programs across the globe; to expand support for the gay and lesbian community in Israel, particularly in the wake of Israel's repeal of its anti-sodomy law; to arrange programs to commemorate the tenth yahrtzeit of Harvey Milk this fall; as well as several administrative items, including a proposal to allow for affiliate membership for certain groups in the World Congress. ●



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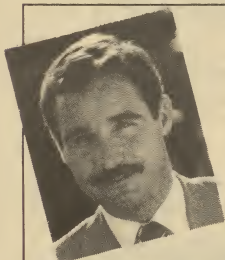
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(ED. NOTE: The following letter is a response from Cable Car Charters to an article which ran in the Aug. 4 Bay Area Reporter.)

Dear Editor:

Thank you for the opportunity to reply to a front page article in your last issue.

The story concerned allegations that persons who chartered a San Francisco motorized Cable Car, made anti-gay derogatory remarks, during their charter.

We contacted the driver of this particular charter. He told us that he was not aware of any derogatory remarks which may have been uttered by his passengers. He said that the music played by this group while on the charter, was loud enough that he could not hear anything but the music.

I would like to state very clearly and for your record, our policy at Cable Car Charters.

First, we do not discriminate against gays, or for that matter against any individuals or groups, for reasons of color, sex, age, religion, cultural background or sexual identity. On the contrary, our motorized Cable Cars have supported many gay community events, and I have donated motorized Cable Car services to gay community events, just as I have other community events.

Second, we do not tolerate drivers who allow passengers to act in a way derogatory to individuals or groups, nor do we allow passengers to act in such a way. Following discussions with the driver in this particular case, and given his past record with us and my personal knowledge of him, I am convinced he was not aware of any derogatory actions which his passengers may have taken. Until I am convinced that those who chartered our Cable Car did not make derogatory remarks, I have instructed my staff that we will take no further charters from them.

We are taking additional measures to ensure that all our drivers are fully aware that discrimination and derogatory remarks from motorized Cable Cars are in sharp conflict with company policy, and where appropriate, disciplinary action will be taken. We have never had an incident like this in 25 years.

Arnold S. Gridley, Owner
Cable Car Charters
San Francisco

Grieving Lover Hits Insurance Firm With \$5 Million Lawsuit

Charges Breach of Contract In Mortgage Insurance Payments

by Dennis McMillan

A \$5 million lawsuit was filed Monday against Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company for alleged breach of contract and bad faith. Mike Rehm, whose lover Stephen LaLiberte died of AIDS, charged that Minnesota Mutual refused to pay a mortgage insurance policy after the death of LaLiberte. As a result, says Rehm, he has lost the Contra Costa home he shared with LaLiberte that he claims should have been protected by Minnesota Mutual.

LaLiberte, senior systems computer programmer for the federal reserve bank, had bought a three-bedroom home in Hercules, California, in 1985 to live with Rehm, a retailer with Saks Fifth Avenue.

Early in 1986, LaLiberte had purchased mortgage insurance from Minnesota Mutual through Hamilton Savings Bank (the mortgager) which had been offered to all homeowners in the new Hercules housing development. At the time, it was just the normal precaution a new homeowner might take, providing for total payment of the outstanding balance on the mortgage in event of the insured's death.

LaLiberte applied for the policy on Jan. 7, 1986, and was approved with the effective date of coverage as Feb. 4, 1986. His application was okayed, having answered a routine health questionnaire, affirming his state of good health by two doctors. There wasn't any question on the form concerning AIDS or AIDS-related conditions.

Six months after approval of the policy, LaLiberte was diagnosed with AIDS. After a short illness of six weeks, he developed an AIDS-related nervous disorder known as PML and died of a brain tumor.

A 1-YEAR INVESTIGATION

As beneficiary of the estate, Rehm expected Mutual to pay the mortgage insurance. After one year of "investigation" of the claim, Mutual refused to make good on the \$125,000 policy, maintaining that the insurer had a pre-existing case of AIDS. Rehm was unable to keep up with the payments and lost the house.

A year after his lover's death, with the insurance company still allegedly checking on the legitimacy of the claim, the ensuing foreclosure forced Rehm to move from his suburban home to live

in a rented apartment on 14th Street in San Francisco.

Rehm's attorney, Paul Wotman of San Francisco, has filed a \$5 million claim against Mutual for attempting to unilaterally rescind the contract "through a process of post-claim underwriting whereby the application was not evaluated fully until after the claim was filed."

According to Rehm, Mutual has failed to pay several claims of other AIDS decedents who had mortgage insurance. "Since then, Hamilton has not done any more business with Minnesota Mutual, because they have refused to pay off on so many cases — one other in my subdivision," he said.

"This case highlights a nationwide trend of special discriminatory treatment of AIDS claims by insurance companies," Wotman said. "This procedure of post-claim underwriting seeks to blame the AIDS sufferers, rather than to fairly compensate them under the terms of the insurance policy. It runs contrary to the general policy's sense of compassion and fairness for sufferers of a disease and compounds the tragedy of AIDS," the lawyer said.

"This has totally uprooted my whole life," Rehm said. "I don't want it to happen to a lot of other people, if it can be helped."

WANTS A PRECEDENT

Wotman is seeking to establish precedent to stop companies from post-claim underwriting on allegedly false issues such as these. "Companies should not be able to deny claims because they want to save money and regularly deny AIDS claims," he said.

Wotman said "an award of punitive damages" would help the gay community "in terms of telling insurance companies they can't engage in this kind of pro-

Human Rights, has announced the beginning of its 1988 granting cycle. Grant applications will be accepted between Aug. 10 and Sept. 20, 1988. To qualify for consideration, an applicant must be 501(C)3 tax-exempt or have a tax-exempt sponsor.

The foundation will consider grants for specific, clearly-identified projects affecting gay and/or lesbian health and wellness issues within the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Area. The foundation does not fund operating budgets (staff salaries, etc.), endowments, or clinical research projects. Grants cannot be made without an application.

For grant application forms, please write the BAPHR Foundation, P.O. Box 15005, San Francisco 94115, or call 558-9353 or 346-7070.



Paul Wotman and Michael Rehm.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

cedure in the future."

If Rehm wins the suit, he would like to purchase the home his lover had bought, although he realizes the improbability of such plans, new owners having now taken over. He also wants to do something in LaLiberte's memory. "I would probably do it at S.F. General, because they need a lot of things there," he said. "I saw that when I stayed there during Steven's illness."

Although Wotman sees the defendant putting up a heavy legal battle, he is nonetheless optimistic of settlement in Rehm's favor within a year. "In terms of our legal arguments and the facts, I think we're in excellent shape," the lawyer stated.

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Buena Vista Park On the Agenda

The Recreation and Park Commission will meet on Thursday, Aug. 18, at 2 p.m. at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park (Fell and Stanyan streets). One of the items calendared for consideration will be the Buena Vista Park summit and children's play area.

For further information, contact 558-4916 or 558-4773.

BAPHR Announces '88 Granting Cycle

The BAPHR Foundation, the fundraising and grant-making arm of Bay Area Physicians for

BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

VOL. XVIII NO. 32 AUGUST 11, 1988

NEXT ISSUE OUT: AUGUST 18

NEXT DEADLINE: AUGUST 12

B.A.R.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

What, Me Worry?

Well, there he goes again! Criticizing President Ronald Reagan for his handling of the AIDS crisis is like beating a dead horse, especially now that he is—thankfully—approaching the end of his term. But the president's response to the recommendations of his own AIDS Commission is so disgraceful that it must be condemned.

Ronald Reagan has once again thumbed his nose at what is generally now regarded as the health menace of this century. He took the hundreds of recommendations of the panel he appointed last year to study the AIDS epidemic and simply tossed them all away. Mr. Reagan boiled down 579 policy proposals to a vague, ineffectual ten-point statement designed to go nowhere. Not only do those ten points amount to zero, but reducing the panel's multitude of recommendations for a comprehensive federal response to the complex health crisis, amounts to adding insult to injury.

Mr. Reagan has done once again what has characterized his eight-year administration—glibly smirked at a dire social crisis. The standard Reagan response to AIDS as well as other problems has been to sneer at the concern, blame the victims, offer some patry imitation of a program and declare it all over.

Sorry, Mr. Reagan, you may be ready for your close-up, but that's not why we're here. Reality can't be so easily ignored. There is, after all, that body floating in the swimming pool. In fact, there are about 38,000 bodies now and the list is growing.

Mr. Reagan's response to the epidemic and to his own commission's conclusions about the crisis omit any grasp of the seriousness of the situation. He failed to come to grips with the discrimination issue by failing to recommend any federal action to prevent it. He failed to deal with the on-going battle against the epidemic by failing to urge any significant increase in federal appropriations to meet the crisis.

The Presidential AIDS Commission had urged both federal antidiscrimination legislation and raising federal expenditures for research, education and treatment to \$3 billion. One can only wonder if Mr. Reagan even read the group's report.

One wonders why Mr. Reagan ever appointed a panel to study AIDS. What was the real agenda?

It would seem that the duplicity that we suspected was really there all along. The Presidential AIDS Commission was never intended to succeed. The original panel members were appointed to produce a clown show and they damn near did. Then Admiral James Watkins came along—mistakes will happen—and took the job seriously. Watkins got the panel into shape. He met with people who knew about the disease and its effects, studied the range of complex issues, and learned with intelligence and compassion what this epidemic is doing to people. Despite the number of bozos on the commission, Watkins turned in a comprehensive final report that is a nearly perfect blueprint for action.

It wasn't supposed to be that way. The commission was supposed to turn in a ranting, ideological statement with a Right-wing agenda, probably adding on a moral lecture for those at risk or with the disease, and a pat on the back for the do-nothing Reagan administration.

So, Mr. Reagan is simply now doing the most graceful job of damage control he can manage. He's trying to sweep that 300-page document under a rug, hoping nobody noticed. Fortunately, everybody has noticed and Mr. Reagan's performance, with or without close-ups, only assures that his administration will go into the history books as having failed to take reasonable and humane measures to stem the course of this epidemic. In the long run, AIDS may turn out to be the worst failure of the Reagan presidency with its long list of failures, snafus and corruption.

The Reagan approach to AIDS has for eight years been one of ignoring the crisis and its suffering, except to treat it as a moral issue. While Mr. Reagan has not significantly addressed AIDS, he has let the Right dominate the debate by rendering the issue as one of gay rights, not public health. He's allowed the demagogues of his own party to rant about militant homosexuals while the nation's health care system is going down in flames and the deaths keep mounting.

If Mr. Reagan chose at this time to take up the AIDS crisis, it would likely be only with malice and incompetence. We may be better off at this stage with this man just riding off into the sunset muttering something like "What's all the fuss about, anyway?" Maybe the horse can make some noise so the President won't have to hear any questions. ●

OPINION

That's What Friends Are For

by T. J. Anthony

Senator Pete Wilson wants us to know that he genuinely cares about our rights and our lives. Of course, he would rather not put it into writing. And, please, no roll call votes that might challenge him on it. If that happens, he will be forced to vote against us. After all, Pete reasons, to do otherwise would cause him to endure the wrath of the homophobes. All of them. And any loss of their votes could cause Pete to forfeit his Senate seat. Then where would we be without our friend, Pete?

No, we must be smarter than the average bear. We are now playing the game of high-stakes politics. The big-boy stuff. We must be sophisticated enough to know that Pete must vote against us. Again and again. This way Pete dupes the Moral Majority into thinking he supports their issues. But really we know the truth. Pete cares about us. It is a clever scheme: he gives his votes to the Moral Majority, but his heart belongs to us.

Think of it this way: Pete is stuck in a bad marriage (Republican Party), but he is head over heels in love with his mistress (us, the queers). He is just biding his time, though. And when he is able (after a few more elections), he will come for us, and together we will ride off into the sunset.

Recently, Jesse Helms came up with his stock amendment to prohibit federal dollars from going to those AIDS service agencies that think homosexuals are nice folk. Why stop there demanded New Hampshire's Gordon Humphrey. He quickly offered his own amendment to prohibit the use of funds to "promote or encourage homosexuality, or use words stating that homosexuality is normal, natural, or healthy." The Humphrey restriction, however, applies to all health and mental health programs and services.

What was Pete to do? He had already voted for identical Helms amendments twice before. Surely his constituents expect him to be consistent on these critical public policy issues. Besides, Jesse and Gordon are family. On the things that matter, the family sticks together.

But this family stuff does not make it easy when your heart is someplace else. When Gordon Armstrong came up with his amendment to gut Washington, D.C.'s gay rights law, it seemed for a moment that Pete was going to have a heart attack. With anxiety-driven heart palpitations, it looked as if the balancing act was about to tumble.

The family's usual togetherness quickly evaporated when seven of

his Republican relatives rejected Armstrong's amendment. What was Pete to do? He could vote no, arguing that the people of Washington have the same right to enact civil rights laws as, say, the people of California. No, that would be too wordy. Besides, everyone knows blacks are a majority in Washington. Heavens forbid if they should be allowed to make meaningful decisions affecting their own lives.

Almost magically, Pete garnered his senses, took a deep breath, and cast a firm vote for Armstrong. He really had no choice. The wrong vote and—wham! The homophobes would surely have marched onto the Senate floor and dragged Pete off. They would have shackled his body to a cinder block and tossed it into the Potomac.

And then where would we be without our friend Pete?

That is precisely why Pete cannot cosponsor Senator Cranston's Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Act. Or Cranston's Hate Crimes legislation. Pete feels just terrible about this too. You know, first promising to sign on, only to break the date, so to speak, when he returned home to Washington. But do not blame Pete. It is the fault of those homophobes. All of them.

They are mean and demanding. Hell, they are out to kill folks. Just take a look around you. All those bodies piling up with queers being bashed here, and denied AIDS treatment over there. Yes sirree, those homophobes are deadly serious.

And if just one of those homophobes spot Pete's name on a love letter to us, why it would be all over for him. And for us. We would lose our true friend from the place he can do the most good, the U.S. Senate.

But take heart. It is not all bad. There are some things Pete refuses to back down on. At one of our rendezvous, Pete promised, "I would never, ever support a homophobe for a judgeship."

What? Well, yes, Pete did actively back Robert Bork for the Supreme Court. But just because Bork waged a one-man campaign to abolish the anti-discrimination policy at Yale Law School does not make him a homophobe. Nor can Bork's lengthy court opinions denying gay admission into military or government service be viewed as homophobic. And his opinion that we have no constitutional rights to privacy, for anything, but most of all "to engage in homosexual conduct," does not qualify as homophobia. No, Robert Bork is not a homophobe. Pete promises us.

(Continued on page 14)

Book Burning

★ I'd like to call readers' attention to a horrendous bill now before the U.S. Senate that would have a chilling effect on our First Amendment rights. An obscenity law has been grafted onto a child pornography law that would federalize the crime of obscenity, making "obscene literature" subject to federal penalties as well as any existing state ones.

Worse, it would institute civil forfeiture of the assets of any business or facility accused of offering "obscene literature." This law, designed to shut down adult bookstores, could be applied with equally devastating effect to any bookstore or even a public library, and would treat book sellers like drug dealers!

It's not too far-fetched to imagine what this "zero tolerance of ideas" law would do for the availability of gay papers—after all how many neighborhood store owners would want to risk facing criminal penalties and lose their entire stores (before trial!) just because they offered these papers that were accused of being obscene?!

Contact your Senators (Cranston and Wilson) to stop this atrocity from becoming the law of the land. Somehow it has already passed in the more liberal House of Representatives!

Gary Cummings
San Francisco

A Violation of Ethics

★ I am shocked that the intervention of one city employee, Ms. Lorraine Day of San Francisco General, could subvert a Castro area blood drive.

In the past Ms. Day has insisted all surgery patients at S.F. General be tested for HIV. Her rationalization was that she was free to withhold or dispense medical care on the basis of her personal preferences and that there was a danger to her by blood during surgery.

As to her choice of choosing patients, such an act is not only a violation of her medical oath of ethics, it certainly must be a violation of the policies of a publicly funded hospital.

If she finds herself unable to prevent infection by blood-borne diseases, she had best find another occupation. Clearly her professional competence as a surgeon is highly suspect if this is the case.

The current ill-considered act of paranoia by Ms. Day disrupts the blood collection program of the city. Such dangerous actions by a city employee cannot be allowed to continue.

Given the fact Ms. Day uses her city position as a pulpit for her homophobic and AIDS-phobic pronouncements, her continued employment is a disgrace not only to the Department of Public Health which allows her this opportunity, but to all residents of San Francisco. The taxpayers of San Francisco deserve competent, honest, and compassionate health professionals. Those who cannot meet those standards should be forced to find alternative employment where their abilities can be appropriately recognized.

Jerry Jansen
San Francisco

Still Confidential?

The following letter was sent to William Lang, M.D., clinical director of the S.F. Men's Health Study:

As a participant in the San Francisco Men's Health Study since its inception, I am writing you concerning the Dannemeyer AIDS Initiative and the implications of its passage to all participants, myself included, of the Men's Health Study.

I recently read an annotated version of the Dannemeyer AIDS Initiative written by Matt Coles for the ACLU Foundation of Northern California, Inc. On page two of this document, in reference to Research Projects, it states:

Research Projects: Any research project which keeps any record which could link the names of the participants with their HIV tests results would be required to report the results to the local health officer. [Sec. 6.8 H&S C Sec., 199.22(e)].

Although I know you use numbers when running blood tests, there is no doubt somewhere in the study's files, a file which connects those numbers to the individuals the numbers belong to. Does that therefore mean, if this initiative passes, that the San Francisco Men's Health Study would be required to report to the state all known positive HIV results?

I recall such a concern was voiced way back in 1984 when the study began, and also recall hearing that the files would be destroyed before any such informative disclosure were to occur. Is that still your position?

Because these questions and concerns affect more than 1,000 study participants, I am copying this letter to the Bay Area Reporter with the request they publish a copy.

It would be greatly appreciated if your response to me would also be copied to the Bay Area Reporter so that participants will know what your responses are to these questions.

Robert J. Dern, CPA
San Francisco

Physician Day, Heal Thyself

★ I see the AIDS-phobic Dr. Lorraine Day, an orthopedic surgeon at San Francisco General Hospital, strikes again! At her urging, two very important blood drives benefitting PWAs were cancelled because she believes Castro blood to be tainted. Did she take time to investigate that donor base of these drives do not include high-risk individuals, but instead are predominantly lesbian, a population with the lowest incidence of HIV infection? Is she qualified to dictate blood donor policy by her position?

She has also been making the rounds on the talk show circuit advocating mandatory testing for hospital patients. Dr. Day dismisses counter arguments by pompously displaying her credentials as a physician when her opponents lack MD at the end of their signature. Yes, Dr. Day has her First Amendment right to voice her opinion, but where was a more enlightened response? Why is San Francisco General Hospital silent?

Looking at the Hippocratic Oath one can read "First, do no harm." The ill-considered involvement of Dr. Day in matters unrelated to her specialty has done harm to the many PWAs who would have benefited from the lesbian community's outstanding efforts.

Her opinions are the thing tainted—poisoned by AIDS-phobia. Physician, heal thyself!

Johann Stahl
San Francisco

What Goes Around, Comes Around

★ I am a 46-year-old gay male. In the B.A.R. lately has been much handwringing by my generation and those which precede it. The bewailed theme is "Oh, how can the young practice youthism on us, the people who brought forth gay liberation?"

I'll tell you how: the same way we did it. Have memories grown so short that youthism is now viewed as a recent phenomenon? The mindset of "no one over 25 need apply" was widespread in the early '60s. In the '70s people routinely and arbitrarily were denied admission to the baths because they did not fit a certain "image." The B.A.R.'s own files contain ample documentation of this.

Behind the handwringing lies the truth that youthism is more tolerable at age 21 than at age 50. It's rather hypocritical to wait until one's middle years to condemn it.

What went around has now come around. Ugly, isn't it? And since many members of the current young generation have not profited from our mistake, there'll be a lot more of it coming around in the future.

Hugh Crell
San Francisco

We Want To Be Part Of It

The following letter was sent to Coretta S. King:

★ I am writing today to ask your support for the inclusion of bisexuals, lesbians, and gays in the national civil rights march in Washington on Aug. 27, 1988.

Since the Stonewall Rebellion in New York in 1969, lesbians and gays of all colors have been inspired by the black civil rights movement. We are struggling for an end to discrimination based on sexual orientation, and an extension of civil rights protections to all Americans.

As you know, people of color have been profoundly affected by the AIDS epidemic. The Third World AIDS Advisory Task Force was organized to give people of color a forum as San Francisco and the nation responds to AIDS. We monitor the availability of AIDS-related resources to communities of color and advocate to increase the involvement of people of color in AIDSARC/HIV+ policy development, planning, and decision making.

In October 1987, 800,000 people marched on Washington for gay and lesbian rights. We were supported by Jesse Jackson, Cesar Chavez, and others who spoke at the rally following the march. This August, lesbians and gays of all colors want to join hands with you and thousands of others to celebrate the beginnings of the civil rights movement and continue our work for the equality and advancement of all people.

Hank Tavera, M.Ed., Chair
Third World AIDS Advisory Task Force
San Francisco



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LETTERS

Friday vs. Redmond

★ My hat is off to Wayne Friday (B.A.R., Aug. 11) for not only exposing the viciousness of the Danne-meyer initiative, but also exposing Bay Guardian reporter Tim Redmond's unreasonable coverage of Mayor Agnos. As a recent victim of one of Redmond's inaccurate articles, I now realize that you can't believe everything you read in the Guardian, even though it may sound "politically correct."

Ignoring the fact that the Columbo Building demolition permit appeal was withdrawn before it ever reached the Board of Permit Appeals, Redmond blasted me and the other commissioners on the board for supposedly siding with the Four Seas Corporation against the tenants of the I-Hotel, now in the guise of the Foundation to Protect Architectural Heritage. I confronted Redmond with this fact, yet he chooses to hang on to his fantasy that the Agnos Board of Permit Appeals has the power to rewrite history and undo the wrong that was done to the I-Hotel tenants, even though the case has not been appealed to them.

At the same time, Redmond has ignored the many cases which have been brought before us in which we have consistently sided with low/moderate-income San Franciscans against wealthy and powerful interests—like Harvey Milk did when he occupied the seat I now hold. We have stopped the demolition of affordable housing and protected tenants from being vacated to construct unnecessary "improvements" in their units to jack up the rents.

Once again, I give Wayne Friday credit for overlooking his disagreements with Agnos and giving him credit for working hard and doing the best he can on difficult issues. I wish the Guardian would do the same.

Paul Melbostad, Member
Board of Permit Appeals
San Francisco

Bambi Protests

★ I'm writing this letter in regard to Mike Hippler's article (B.A.R., Aug. 4), "Bambi: The True Story."

I thought that the "story" was tasteless, improper, and disgusting. The drawing with the article displayed more perversely poor taste.

I'm an entertainer with the stage name "Bambi," and this story has caused me more embarrassment in the entertainment world than I would want.

This movie is telling about growing up in a world with the kindness, hatred, love, sadness, death, and danger that we all experience.

Hippler has put so much trash in this article that he has used his deranged mind to exploit this heartwarming story that is made for children and that also shows love for friends that Mike apparently cannot relate to.

If Hippler really saw anything in the movie, he should have seen anything but "a sordid melange of effeminacy, abandonment, bastardy, child molestation, homosexuality, misogyny, bestiality, and child sexuality."

If Hippler would get over his own gay nerves, maybe he would actually see what this world is about, through this heartwarming story of Bambi, and not all this B.S. of all bad!

This is a perfect example of how some outspoken pervers have given homosexuals as a group a bad name and why heterosexuals think gays are nothing but scum.

Maybe this article is something Mike Hippler fantasizes about doing, and he's just letting it out in his article.

We all should boycott Mike Hippler altogether.

Bambi, aka
R.C. Libhart
San Bruno

Approaching Donations

The following letter was sent to Coming Home Hospice:

★ I have been a constant patron of your Thursday night bingo for more than a year and have had a great time doing so. Unfortunately, I have experienced a problem over the last year I think you should be aware of. That problem is donations.

I believe it to be outstanding of the monies accumulated over the past years at CHHB. I also find it heartwarming that lucky winners donate part of their winnings. What I do not find proper is the manner in which it is approached.

Since I have been attending CHHB (and mind you I have won numerous times), it is taken for granted that patrons will donate part of their prize earnings. Picture this: one wins a game and one is paid their share of prize money. Sounds like a fair and honest exchange to me. Nonetheless, the runners just stand there after one has been paid, waiting for another donation.

May I say I have donated tremendously over the years to various groups and charities, and to give is to receive, but let's not forget a patron is already donating from the moment he or she purchases their boards, get-a-games, or other various bingo propaganda. Furthermore, true gamblers are left to feel guilty if a runner is implying a bite of your purse. Sure, CHHB may not intend to insinuate "more, more, more!" but it certainly appears that way.

CHHB should look at this matter seriously. If a person wants to share his earnings, fine, let he or she do so, but the support staff and runners should find a nonintimidating way of assuming, receiving, and acknowledging a donation from a patron. A suggestion possibly would be asking the name of the donating patron and presenting the names and amounts of donations each week near the entrance. Not only will this solve the embarrassing feeling of not being able to give more, but it will be much more personal for whomever chooses to leave their name or remain anonymous.

I truly believe CHHB means well by its goals, and in many ways one should stand behind it. Just keep in mind money is usually hard earned for most, and charities should be considerate of the fact that giving is not always possible. Think about it.

E. S. Andrews
San Francisco

Ageism in the Flesh

★ Thank you immensely for printing the letter of Donald Cameron Scot on the bold ignorance of the young. And for printing a couple of letters from those "boys" defending themselves. If evidence of ignorance were needed, they surely supplied it.

I wish to go further. There is a gay bar in San Francisco that caters to the young—"boys." It blatantly discriminates against those who do not meet their criteria. In fact, I have evidence that this establishment will not serve those who do not meet their criteria and have even surreptitiously abetted the use of Mickey Finns and other means when all else failed.

So this is where the "boys" of gay liberation have come to. Thanks a lot, but no, thanks.

Ned Tuck
San Francisco

Law Does Good

★ Despite his enormous health, financial, and legal problems, Law Wilson has devoted himself to the photographic exhibit "Faces of AIDS." He is the major force behind expanding the project by 40 more portraits to include all groups afflicted with the disease and he has personally undertaken the task of putting "Faces" under the auspice of the Names Project, Inc. Without his energy, financial assistance, and devotion to the gay community, "Faces" would not have its current opportunities. In my opinion, Law is a product of the San Francisco gay community. Once caught up in drugs, sex, and alcohol he became an addict; but now sober and clean, he is a true asset to all of us. I hope we can forgive and forget past transgressions.

Jim Wigler
Photographer, "Faces of AIDS"
San Francisco

End of an Era?

★ Okay, end of an era, a movement, or what: "Huge Heterosexual Influx Moving Into the Castro" on tonight's news!

Since being made aware of this "transition" for some time now, my impulse is to pack up and move back out there, do my teeny part against the demise/disappearance of this bastion of our visible presence: an actual gay neighborhood "where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came."

Okay, it gets too institutionalized and quasi-fashionable; overrated, as well as underrated for falling short.

I just hope the dissipation won't completely happen, possibly indicating that those poor fags were just another passing fad, but now they're all dead or learned their lesson.

Have we?

Someone, please remind me what it was. (TV says that we don't need a ghetto anymore.)

Tom Stoker
San Francisco

Power vs. Politics

★ I found John J. Powers' observations about the AIDS Walk rally most interesting. I, too, felt there was something out of place: The orgy of Reagan, Dukemjian, Dannemeyer, and Bush bashing that seemed to infect almost all of the speakers. No doubt other governments and other policies would handle the horror of AIDS in a more effective and compassionate way. But even if Pres. Jesse Jackson were calling the shots, we would need an AIDS Foundation, a Black Coalition on AIDS, and all of the other organizations we were out there supporting. In short, what is important is not what absent others are not doing about AIDS, but what we had come together to accomplish.

The simple fact is that I was there *only* because my employer was fielding a team, and I wanted to support their support of my community with my body. I cannot speak for the motives of my fellow team members, but the fact is that there were more than 200 of us, and other major corporations were equally in evidence. I am "rightfully proud" to have been part of this walk, as I was rightfully proud to walk up Market Street in the parade.

As a member of a political minority, I understand that, in any broadly based movement I join, I will find many people whose views on a wide range of subjects are wrong; i.e., not mine. I have come to believe that this diversity is a source of our strength, not weakness, and I hope Mr. Powers will come to treasure it, too.

Richard Gorin
San Francisco

Vote for Dukakis

★ At last there has been an article about Mike Dukakis that tells it like it is! (Vin McCarthy, B.A.R., July 29). Mr. McCarthy, I applaud you for speaking out in a positive fashion to show that this candidate is not just our only choice, but a damn superior one at that.

What we fail to remember is that the gay and lesbian population of this country represents only a small portion of the general population, and the point so many of us are missing is that running for president (or any elected office) requires a delicate strategy; especially this tight presidential election. If Mike Dukakis gives gays and lesbians the nod, he could offend twice our number of those who are undecided; the edge George Bush may need to win. Just because in San Francisco we are tolerated and accepted (at best) does not mean the balance of the voters in this country are sympathetic to our case. In fact, they're not even tolerant!

The winning strategy is to get as many voters as possible to defeat the Republican ticket, then push for the commitments we presently seek. Realistically, how can we trust Mike Dukakis, you ask? With a great deal more confidence than we could trust a Bush White House. So how can a candidate who supports an unpopular minority expect to win an election against the clone of this superficially popular president?

I propose that we all stop pissing and moaning over what a bum rap we're getting because no one is kissing our feet and start supporting Mike Dukakis for president. Mike Dukakis will address our needs in the next four years; he will "lead the charge" in the war against AIDS; he will establish equal rights for all Americans; and he will provide us all with the realization of our dreams.

I'm with Vin McCarthy, and I challenge all lesbians and gays to keep the dream alive, to keep hope alive. Support and vote for Mike Dukakis for president of the United States.

Gary Robert Goad
San Francisco

U.S. Military in the Dark Ages

The following letter was sent to Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci:

★ This letter concerns the conviction and sentencing of Marine Sgt. Cheryl Jameson and Spl. Barbara Baum for sodomy.

Veterans C.A.R.E. is one of six national gay and lesbian wartime veterans organizations, which includes the American Legion, Alexander Hamilton Post #448.

Since a liberal policy of discharging homosexuals with "Honorable Discharges" was established and has been practiced since the late 1970s, it seems that the prosecutor, Major David Beck, is really expressing his own bigotry and practicing his own form of discrimination. Major Beck asked the jury to sentence Cpl. Baum "for a large number of years" in order to send "a message, if you will, because a message is going to go out from your sentence to other Marines in similar situations . . . that as a Marine of any rank, such conduct will not be tolerated." His request was asking for "cruel and unusual" punishment and is intolerable, especially

when the military only detects one out of every 200 homosexuals who serve successfully. This low detection is very costly to the taxpayers. Millions of dollars in training and manhours are lost because of this "dark ages" philosophy that homosexuals are somehow different from other human beings.

Many studies and reports have been made by the military to ascertain the affect of homosexuals serving in the military. Because of their truthfulness and positive aspects, these reports have been lost and forgotten. One such report is that of Capt. S.H. Crittenden, Jr., U.S. Navy. A board was established by the Secretary of the Navy on 21 Dec. 1956 and the report was submitted on 15 March 1957.

Now, more than 30 years later, with a tremendously changing "civilian climate," such as a current Gallup Poll stating 55 percent of those polled would allow gays to serve in the military up from 51 percent two years earlier, the military still has its head buried in the sand.

There is still no evidence that homosexuals are security risks. As a matter of fact, during the past few years the weaknesses of heterosexual service people concerning sex and money resulting in betrayal and traitorous acts has been very evident.

There is still no evidence that homosexuals are harmful to "good conduct and discipline." In most cases of homosexuals being discharged, their shipmates, in spite of being in danger for associating with homosexuals, express their surprise and lack of understanding of the military's position and reason for the discharge.

Last but not least, is the old reason that homosexuals adversely affect "combat readiness." Homosexuals have just as many high honors as heterosexuals for exemplary and meritorious achievements in combat. One of many examples is the late Sgt. Leonard Matlovich, USAF. His high honors are well known to you. More than 100,000 young homosexuals are in wartime graves. You tell them and their families that they adversely affected combat readiness.

Mr. Secretary, it is respectfully requested that you review the cases of Sgt. Cheryl Jameson and Cpl. Baum and dismiss the charges and award "Honorable Discharges" or better still allow them to serve with honor, dignity, and privacy, which every American should have the right to do.

It is further requested that you initiate a board of responsible citizens to study this unfounded idea from the "dark ages" that homosexuals somehow affect other intelligent people. It is time to observe the changing climate.

Chuck Schoen
First Officer, Veterans CARE
Redwood Empire Council
Rohnert Park, CA

Country Club Vandals

★ I am a therapist serving the gay community in private practice. For seven years I held responsible professional positions in local hospital treatment settings where I served with a good professional reputation, something I continue to possess. I have been doing private practice for more than a year, as well, and exclusively since May of this year.

It has come to my attention repeatedly in the last four months that I am the object of statements of slander by persons of reputation in the recovery clique that centers on the Castro Country Club, a clean and sober environment that caters to 12 Step Program members. These statements have been made privately and publicly (e.g. the General Planning Meeting of the Living Sober Conference). They are of such a nature as to cause me personal and professional harm.

What is more, fliers and posters advertising my work, posted in the Country Club "notice and poster" area, have repeatedly been vandalized, torn down, and thrown away by anonymous individuals who appear to bear me ill will.

All of this in the context of a program that is said to be based on love, tolerance, and "rigorous honesty."

The program also makes provision for its members to make amends for wrongs they have done. I am patiently awaiting the amends for these acts so that their perpetrators can continue to grow in spiritual awareness, "putting the principles into practice in all of their affairs."

Joe Tolson, M.S.W., M.A.
San Francisco



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GOP Goes to New Orleans

With the Democratic convention history, that party having offered us a Dukakis/Bentsen ticket in the November election, it is the Republicans' turn as they open their national convention in New Orleans' Superdome Monday. There was little suspense to the Democrats' confab, but there promises to be little more in the GOP convention.

George Bush says he will keep his vice presidential choice secret until next Thursday, the day of the actual nomination for that office. Political prognosticators close to Bush claim they have no idea who his choice will be, but most guessing centers on N.Y. Rep. Jack Kemp or Kansas Sen. Bob Dole.



U.S. Sen. Pete Wilson.

(Photo: Rink)

With the vice president lagging consistently behind Michael Dukakis in all polls, Bush could—and might—surprise everyone by putting a woman on the ticket, a move that would be considered bold—and smart politics. Both Sen. Nancy Kassenbaum and former Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole are said to be among the list of Bush's possibilities, but, frankly, I don't expect George Bush has enough courage or brains to put a woman on the ticket.

The GOP national platform is being put together this week, and most observers think it will probably change little from the conservative to moderate position it has taken since Ronald Reagan entered national politics. One area that has not been addressed before is the AIDS epidemic, and Connecticut Sen. Lowell Weicker, the Senate's most liberal Republican, is hoping to put the party and its platform squarely behind all the recommendations of Reagan's AIDS Commission, including its proposal for a new federal law barring discrimination against AIDS patients.

Another proposal being pushed by Weicker and moderate Republicans would have the party endorse funding of abortion for victims of rape and incest, a plan recently approved by the Senate.

New Jersey Gov. Tom Kean, a Republican who wins elections

with the support of blacks, gays, and other minorities and who is well known for his strong support of women and his progressive record of support for child care, pay equity, and other women's causes (he was chosen for the "Good Guy" award in 1986 by the National Women's Political Caucus) will give the party's keynote speech Monday evening. That one might be well worth listening to.

Still, the conservative wing is in control of the Republican Party, and don't look for anything like approval of the ERA, gay rights, abortion, or any of the like.

If nothing else, the national press corps is happy to see the Republicans gather in New Orleans—a party town if ever there was one, and the city is working hard to get ready to make the GOP visit a memorable one. One well-known national TV newsmen commented the other night, "At least the Republicans had the good sense to take New Orleans over the likes of Atlanta," and undoubtedly a good time will be had by all. More on the Republican convention and the Bush? ticket next week.

It looks like the fight to be the next state Democratic chairperson (to be elected in January) will come down to San Francisco attorney Neil Eisenberg, Menlo Park investment

banker Steve Westley, or Willie Brown, who dearly wants the position (pardon me, I meant the power).

The influential Mexican-American Political Association got p.o'd because both presidential candidates snubbed their invitation to their Fresno confab last weekend, so will endorse neither Bush nor Dukakis. MAPA did, however, endorse Democrat Leo McCarthy over Sen. Pete Wilson.

Candidates still jumping into the supervisory race (Michael Mademan is one of the latest), though most seem to be positioning themselves for a race next year in the event the idiotic Bagelata plan passes.

The World Health Organization reports that AIDS cases throughout the world rose by 7,766, or 7.7 percent, in July, with the United States accounting for half the new cases.

Mayor Art Agnos recently appointed attorney Todd Dickinson to another term on the San Francisco Parking Authority. It's a good appointment. Dickinson will continue as the authority's president.

U.S. Sen. Pete Wilson will be the guest speaker at the annual dinner of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR) Monday, Aug. 22, at the Grand Palace Restaurant on Grant Avenue. Dinner tickets are \$40 (826-6216 for tax and info), though there is a champagne reception prior to the dinner with Wilson, and tax for both events are \$140.

This is the 11th anniversary of CRIR, a group which has played an important part in San Francisco politics, and congratulations and best wishes for continued success are certainly due. (Now here's hoping the Concerned Republicans can get the senator to come out against the ugly Dannemeyer AIDS reporting initiative.)

Speaking of which, Californians Against Prop. 102 (the Dannemeyer plan) invite all of you—Republicans and Democrats alike—to a kickoff reception to defeat this vicious initiative, on next Tuesday, Aug. 16, at Fort Mason (Buchanan and Marina Boulevard), 6 to 8 p.m. This is a fundraiser to get badly needed funds to fight Dannemeyer, and donor's option of \$25, \$35, or \$50 is asked (621-6164 for info). I'll see you there Tuesday night.

Gov. George Deukmejian, who took himself out of the GOP vice presidential race by refusing to com-

plete a requested background questionnaire, told reporters this week that, "regardless of who is on the ticket as vice president, George Bush is going to carry California. We are going to make sure that happens."

The Duke also predicted that "Pete Wilson is also going to return to the Senate. The polls even predict that."

Deukmejian, incidentally, is still agonizing over his next choice as state treasurer, a post that has now been vacant over a year. When asked what his timetable is for his appointment, the governor quipped, "It was yesterday."

Of his own political fortunes, a recent Los Angeles poll shows the Republican governor still a very popular figure in California, and Republicans are hoping that a combination of Deukmejian's popularity, coupled with a plan to run Ronald Reagan up and down the state, will help the GOP overcome a huge Dukakis lead in a state that hasn't voted for a Democratic presidential candidate since 1964.

Dr. Robert Johns, a Castro area resident appointed by Reagan this week as the new ambassador to Barbados, is a long-time Republican activist who is also S.F. County chair of George Bush's campaign.

Whenever there is an iota of promising news about AIDS, I like to pass it on, and Dr. Samuel Broder of the National Cancer Institute, recognized as a top AIDS expert, predicted this week that people carrying the AIDS virus will one day live out full lives with their disease under control, much like people with high blood pressure or diabetes do.

Dr. Broder said this week that science may reach that point in as little as two to three years, if drug testing is aggressive enough. Broder, who led the first studies of the AIDS drug AZT, was among several experts who gave a dose of optimism to physicians and other health professionals at the National Conference on HIV in Washington this past weekend, which was sponsored by private and public health groups.

Dr. Broder says that progress depends on greater support for controlled drug trials, studies in which some patients get a drug and others get a placebo long enough for researchers to tell if the drug is useful.

Critics say the testing and approval process is too slow and keeps promising drugs away from

(Continued on page 19)

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Life at the Closet Door



In the Name of God: Becoming a Gay Pastor

In a country where nearly everyone is told he or she can be president someday, few want to be preachers—much less gay preachers. But such individuals do exist, according to Rev. Jim Mitulski, the pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco (MCC-SF), the second oldest gay congregation in the U.S.

The reasons the future ministers give for choosing this occupation are many and varied.

"Most are interested in spiritual matters, such as teaching, preaching, and counseling," explains Mitulski. "Others are interested in social affairs, such as community organizing and gay and lesbian issues. Still others want to be involved in people's lives in a more intimate way than they have been before."

Whatever their motivations, all must undergo some kind of training. It is not simply a matter of being called by God and hanging out a spiritual shingle.

Because each congregation of the Metropolitan Community Church is a sovereign entity with different worship styles and different organizational structures, the training process for prospective pastors in the MCC varies widely from congregation to congregation.

"The main reason for this," notes Mitulski, "besides the independence of the local congregations, is that we're still a relatively young church, and our training program is still in a state of development. Twenty years ago, for instance, when the church was founded, people became pastors who had little training, but who felt called by God, the way the Pentecostals do. Since then, we've become much more organized."

"Still, we are more flexible than other churches. Many of our pastors are second-career people. Others are pastors who transferred in from another church [although they still have to do a year's work with the local congregation before they are fully ordained in the MCC], then we also have congregations which are led



Reverend Jim Mitulski.

(Photo: S. Warren)

by lay persons who have no training and are not ordained, but who perform many of a pastor's functions. This is usually because the congregation doesn't have the funds to pay for the training. Still, approximately 80 percent of our pastors do undergo MCC-sanctioned training."

Although each congregation sets its own training requirements, typically the pastor-to-be must have a bachelor's degree or relevant work experience. At MCC-SF, a year's internship is also required. All MCC congregations require the recommendation of the local congregation for prospective ministers. And all require that he or she pass a standardized exam, developed by the MCC, involving Biblical knowledge, church history, counseling matters, and the like.

In order to pass the exam, advanced study is usually necessary, either at a mainstream sem-

inaries or at Samaritan College, an MCC institution. There are significant differences between the two.

Seminaries are generally three-year programs intended for those interested in general religious studies, as well as for those interested in becoming ministers. MCC-SF usually sends its stu-

dents to the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, where the tuition is \$4,500 a year and the rewards include a master's degree. It is one of the few seminaries in the country which accept openly gay or lesbian students.

Samaritan College, on the other hand, offers a one-year program which is more focused, concentrating on pastoral skills rather than on general studies. It also costs less, but does not award master's degrees.

Whichever route an individual takes, when he or she completes the training and passes the exam, landing a job with the MCC is never a problem.

Says Mitulski, "At present, there are probably 250 MCC ministers altogether. Twenty or 25 people become ministers each year. But any MCC minister who wants to work can. There are more jobs than there are people to fill them."

"Of course, sometimes they don't pay very much. What we offer are full-time jobs with part-time salaries. The minimum salary for a pastor at MCC, for instance, is \$12,000. A few make twice that, which is still only two-thirds of what a Methodist minister with similar experience would make. So most pastors supplement their incomes with part-time jobs. Our challenge is to develop these positions so we can pay better. That's not the point of being a minister, but it's important for anyone interested to know what to expect."

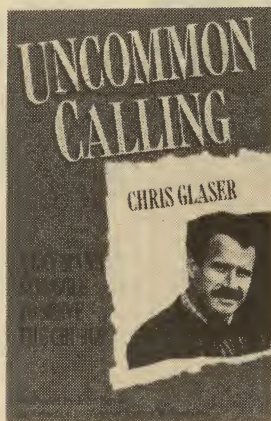
The future minister should also be aware, continues Mitulski, that there is far more involved in pastoring than ministering to spiritual concerns.

"You have to be as interested in community organizing as you are in being a pastor. This is because many of our congregations have a lot of potential, but aren't very large. So you have to build as well as to maintain an institution. Things like mailing lists, advertising, and community networking are a part of the job."

In spite of this—and, for some people, because of it—the rewards of being a pastor are great, claims Mitulski. The proof, he notes, is in the number of people who continue to undergo the training. His own congregation has just graduated two students from the Pacific School of Religion who are now serving as pastors in Redwood City and Mill Valley. Four others are currently seminarians there.

If further proof is needed, Mitulski points to the example of another of MCC-SF's student interns who is not even a lesbian, but who wants to be an MCC minister anyway. For her, it is a chance to work within a progressive organization for a group of people whose spiritual needs have long been ignored by other churches. Like her political counterparts, she might have chosen to empower this slighted minority by becoming president herself—but doubtless she feels this is a better and a surer route. ●

A Gay Christian's Remarkable Spiritual Journey



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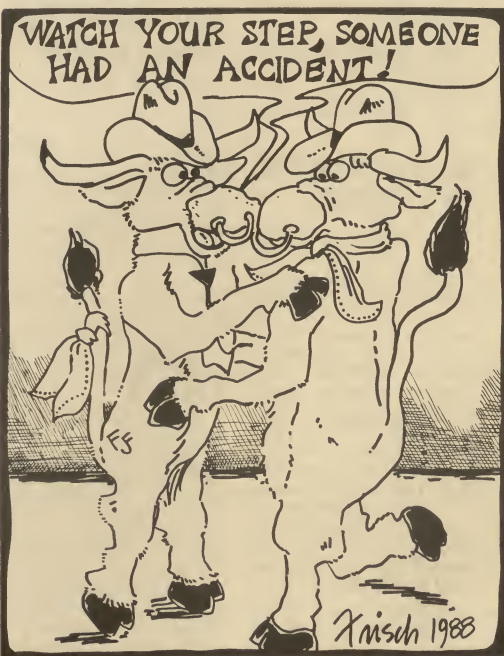
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Grocer Sued for Evicting Customer

LOS ANGELES—An ARCO AM/PM Mini-Market owner, who refused to honor a customer's lottery tickets, ejected him from the store, and accused him of having AIDS because he believed the man was gay, now faces a lawsuit.

When Johnny Gearhart went to cash his lottery tickets at the Glendale Boulevard ARCO AM/PM Mini-Market on Nov. 27, 1987, the owner, Reuben Kemkemian, refused to pay Gearhart's winnings because the tickets supposedly were not marked with the store's stamp.

Upon being asked if other store tickets were also stamped, Kemkemian yelled, "None of your business, faggot, whether they are stamped or not." Kemkemian then demanded Gearhart leave the premises, shouting, "Just get out of the store. I don't want to talk to you, because I don't want to catch AIDS."

A lawsuit was filed June 21 against ARCO AM/PM Mini-Market and Reuben Kemkemian for violation of Gearhart's civil rights.

Amtrak Confused on Couples Discount



(Photo: S. Savage)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Charging that an Amtrak ticket agent refused to sell him a couples discount ticket, Edward Cowen has filed a formal complaint with this city's Office of Human Rights against the National Rail Passenger Corp., the parent agency for Amtrak. Cowen stated that a ticket agent told him that he and his lover were not eligible for the lower fare for couples.

According to the Washington Blade, Cowen was denied the discount June 2 when he was told that the special fare applied only to heterosexual couples who were legally married.

The complaint contradicts earlier reports that Amtrak was granting the couples discount to same-sex couples who asked for it. A national group called Couples had announced in May that it had secured the discount for gay lovers. The group said that Amtrak public relations spokesperson John

Jacobsen had told them that the discount was available regardless of the sexual orientation of a couple.

According to the Blade, that information was confirmed by another official with Amtrak, Anthony Tanna in the agency's division of fares and tariffs. Tanna told the Blade that family plan tickets were available to "all couples."

But Cowen said that he was also told by Amtrak's public relations office that gay couples were not eligible for family plan tickets. He said he will pursue his discrimination complaint regardless of whether or not the official policy of Amtrak allows gay couples to use the discount plan.

"It appears they are not making a legitimate attempt to inform their employees of this policy," Cowen told the Blade.

—Washington Blade

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U.S. Appeals Ruling On Clearances

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Justice has filed an appeal of federal District Court Judge Thelton Henderson's ruling that the denial of security clearances for gays and lesbians violates the Constitution. Henderson ruled in *High Tech Gays v. Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office* (DISCO) that gays constituted a "protected class" entitled to the civil rights protections of other legally recognized minority groups.

The Justice Department appealed to the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals cited the recent Supreme Court ruling in *Navy v. Thomas Egan* that civilian federal agencies cannot review decisions of military and intelligence agencies.

The *High Tech Gays* case involves three gay men employed by private defense contractors in Silicon Valley. Henderson's ruling in August 1987 marked the first time a federal court had concluded that gays were a legitimate minority group.

—Washington Blade

Hugging Banned By Boston Cops

BOSTON—Two officers of the Massachusetts Capitol Police have been accused with harassing members of a gay Al-Anon group by threatening them with arrest if they engaged in hugs at the end of their meetings in a public health center. Members of the group say they were warned that if they continued to embrace, they would have to leave the

building or be charged with committing an act of public display of affection.

There is no law in Massachusetts against same-sex couples hugging in public. Capitol Police Chief Daniel Skelly told the gay newspaper Bay Windows that he would speak to the officers involved. "Their alleged actions do not represent a directive from my office," he said.

Because there are state offices in the same building as the health clinic, Capitol Police regularly patrol the area.

Earlier this year Capitol Police were charged with spying on gay and lesbian groups who protested the policies of Gov. Michael Dukakis.

Skelly said that he would meet with gay representatives to avoid further problems.

—Bay Windows

Kern County Reverses HIV Tracing Policy

SAN FRANCISCO—California's Kern County Health Department has issued new guidelines prohibiting AIDS-related contact tracing on the basis of unsubstantiated, anonymous phone tips or stereotypes about gay men.

Last July, National Gay Rights Advocates protested the department's response to an anonymous phone call stating that a county resident was bisexual. Without speaking to the subject of the call, the department contacted his wife, questioned her about her husband's sexual orientation, and urged her to be tested for HIV antibodies.

The county's newly published guidelines prohibit investigation based on "extraneous matters

such as sexual preference" and require "probable cause" for an investigation.

"I'm relieved that the department has formally recognized that there is no legitimate place for contact tracing based upon unsubstantiated rumors," said Benjamin Schatz, director of NGR's AIDS Civil Rights Project.

"Indeed, contact tracing should be conducted, if at all, only as a last resort, with firm guarantees that no records will be kept by the health department," he said.

Court Upholds Right To Lover's Ashes

BOSTON—A Massachusetts Superior Court justice has ruled that oral instructions for the disposition of one's remains after death may be respected and followed by the courts. The case, *Clarke v. Reilly*, concerned the disposition of the remains of Jon Reilly, who died of AIDS in Boston in December 1986.

Reilly had left explicit instructions that on his death he wanted his lover, Kevin Clarke, to take possession of the body, arrange for a cremation, and keep the ashes in a specified favorite piece of china.

Upon his death, the hospital notified his mother and released his body to his sister. His mother had a wake and funeral and, after cremation, had his ashes buried in a Catholic cemetery. When Mrs. Reilly refused to return the ashes to Kevin Clarke or even tell him where the ashes were buried, Clarke contacted Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD), and a suit was filed by GLAD.

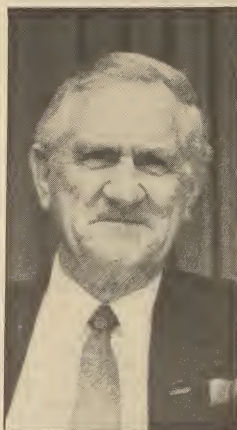
Anti-Dannemeyer Suit Tossed Out

Judge Rules Prop. 102 Not Misleading; Schatz: 'Community Must Join Fight'

by Miranda Kolbe

A suit filed by the California Medical Association (CMA) to block U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer's AIDS initiative from the November ballot failed in court on Monday, Aug. 8.

Lawyers for the CMA, including representatives from the National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA), Lesbian Rights Project, American Civil Liberties Union, and the firm of Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison, argued that the initiative violated the "single subject rule" and that its title and summary were misleading.



Rep. William Dannemeyer.
(Photo: Steve Savage)

NGRA spokesperson Ben Schatz said plaintiffs argued that Prop. 102 was a reporting initiative and, consequently, provisions unrelated to reporting would violate the single subject rule. Such provisions—including allowing employees to wear "protective clothing," allowing insurance companies to use HIV test results, and "enhancing" prison sentences for those who test HIV positive—would violate the single subject rule, as they are unrelated to reporting.

Superior Court Judge Roger Warren, however, defined the initiative more broadly, saying its focus was on public health through stemming the spread of the AIDS epidemic. Schatz said the judge deemed irrelevant whether or not the initiative actually fulfilled this purpose. "It is only necessary that it intends to stop the spread of AIDS," Schatz said.

Plaintiffs were looking for parallels in this case toward a recent case in Sacramento, where a judge decided to strike a no-fault insurance initiative from the ballot because it included a provision dealing with campaign spending. However, Warren said that while a subject such as "fiscal matters" might be considered too broad, AIDS prevention falls within the guidelines for this rule.

"There is an overwhelming burden in favor of allowing an initiative to be presented to the voters," Schatz said, and consequently plaintiffs were up against stiff odds in attempting to get it off the ballot.

Schatz added, "I hope no one was sitting on their hands, waiting for the outcome of this case. But if they were, it's time to get involved now. If our community doesn't get involved and fight this thing, it will pass."

A DEFENDER

Attorney Ted Blanchard defended the initiative in Sacramento. One of the drafters of

Prop. 102, Blanchard is a staff attorney for state Sen. John Doolittle and has worked with conservative activist Paul Gann and Dannemeyer in the past.

He argued the initiative's purpose was to stem to spread of AIDS through three types of measures. The first type of measures attempt to prevent "inadvertent contagion," Blanchard said. Examples of inadvertent contagion include work-related contact with the virus, and one method of prevention allowed in

the initiative is "protective clothing." He said health workers, along with teachers, might choose to wear protective clothing on their jobs.

Blanchard said Prop. 102 imposed no restrictions on the kinds of employment situations in which protective clothing could be worn, because of the initiative sponsors' "basic trust in the common man... That's what freedom is all about."

The second category of infection relates to the "ignorant

spread" of the disease, explained Blanchard. "Ignorant spread" concerns infection through contact with people who don't know they are HIV-positive. To stem the tide of the ignorant spread of HIV, the initiative proposes to "remove artificial barriers to blood testing," according to Blanchard.

Those "artificial barriers" include anonymous test sites and freedom from compulsory contact tracing. Both Blanchard and Bret Barbary, an aide to Dannemeyer, said that test results could

still remain anonymous for those who test seronegative.

The third category includes "intentional infection." People who are HIV-positive who are convicted of crimes, including assault and rape with a foreign object, will have years added on to their sentences. Blanchard explained, "In most of the cases of rape with a foreign object, the perpetrator used saliva on the object. In cases of assault with a deadly weapon, there are often bruised knuckles, bleeding, and spit is commonly exchanged." ●

'No on 102' Starts Campaign

Californians Against Prop. 102, the Dannemeyer AIDS-reporting initiative, will hold its Northern California kickoff event on Tuesday, Aug. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Fort Mason Center (Buchanan and Marina Boulevard) in San Francisco. Mayor Art Agnos will attend the event as a special guest.

Proposition 102 poses a severe threat to current AIDS prevention and treatment strategies. Even worse than Prop. 64 or Prop. 69, Prop. 102 calls for the reporting of the names of all people who test positive for AIDS antibodies. Proposition 102 promises to be more difficult to defeat than Props. 64 and 69, because it is sponsored by right-wing Republican Congressman William Dannemeyer and has the active sup-

port of Paul Gann and state Sen. John Doolittle.

Proposition 102 is opposed by the California Medical Association and the California Nurses Association, who agree that *anonymous* testing for the AIDS virus is crucial to putting an end to the AIDS epidemic. Proposition 102 would close down all anonymous test sites, such as the one on 17th Street in the Castro district of San Francisco. It would also allow employers and insurance companies to test for the AIDS virus.

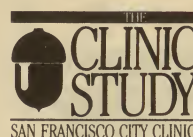
Anyone interested in attending the kickoff event, volunteering on the campaign, or holding a house party to raise funds in support of the campaign can call 621-6164. The event is a donor's option of \$25, \$35, \$50 (sponsor), or \$100 (patron). ●

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A 'Smooth Anointment' for Bush? Gay Groups Just Say No

**Plenty of Activities in the Works in Attempt To
Educate Republican Convention About AIDS**

by Rex Wockner

If Democrats think the gay and lesbian community was noisy and bothersome in Atlanta, they can take consolation in the fact that Republicans will meet a noisier and more determined gay/lesbian community in New Orleans Aug. 18-22. Republicans—activists seem to agree—are much more deserving of gay attention, action, anger, and civil disobedience.

The AIDS Coalition to Network, Organize and Win (ACT NOW) will coordinate protest activities at the Republican National Convention. ACT NOW includes all local ACT UPs (the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) and scores of identical groups, such as Chicago for AIDS Rights (C-FAR); AIDS Action Pledge, San Francisco; Gay Urban Truth Squad (GUTS), Dallas; and MASS ACT OUT, Boston.

ACT NOW organizer Mark Kostopoulos says the group plans "many direct action and civil disobedience activities to disrupt the smooth anointment of George Bush." Adds John Fall of ACT UP/LA., "The fact that the Republicans are having a party when this administration is directly responsible for over 60,000 cases of AIDS is obscene." Roving squads of AIDS activists will be on hand in New Orleans to confront delegates with guerrilla theater.

"We're going to wait and plan a lot of specifics once we get there," Kostopoulos said. "We also don't want to release some of the information in advance, in order to maintain the element of surprise. Basically, though, we'll be getting into places where we're not supposed to be and making sure the Republicans cannot ignore the issue of AIDS, as they have been trying to do so far."

ACT NOW will meet in New Orleans on Sunday, Aug. 14, at noon to finalize direct action and civil disobedience plans. "One thing I can tell you," Kostopoulos said, "is that Bush is making his grand entrance into the city by riverboat. This is a place where I think we want to be."

The California group March On, which staged a die-in at the Democratic convention, will repeat its performance in New Orleans. Organizer Morris Kight says the group has requested a demonstration permit for Monday, Aug. 15, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at New Orleans City Hall.

SAME STRATEGY

San Francisco's Mobilization Against AIDS will also repeat its Atlanta strategies, but with greater drama. According to organizer Paul Boneberg, "The Mothers of



Urvasi Vaid. (Photo: T. DiMaria)

Persons With AIDS will be in New Orleans with a delegation of other PWA family members. On Monday they'll march in procession to deliver to Reagan and Bush letters from mothers of PWAs, asking Reagan and Bush to take action to save the lives of their children.

"We fully expect the mothers to be prevented from delivering their letters, of course, which is fine. It will clearly show that this administration doesn't care about AIDS. At the same time, it'll show AIDS as the 'all-American' issue that it is. This action cannot be dismissed as the work of a few loony gays."

Boneberg says the mothers may well do a civil disobedience action later in the convention. Any mothers or family members of PWAs willing to help should contact Boneberg at the number listed at the end of this article.

In New Orleans, the new local group GLITER—Gay and Lesbian Initiative to Educate Republicans—has committed itself to a gay visibility campaign prior to the convention and to arranging housing and legal services for visiting gay/lesbian activists. A highlight of locally organized actions during the convention will be the "Night of Light and Love" on Saturday, Aug. 13, from dusk until dawn. According to spokesperson Rich Magill,

"thousands of candles will be lighted in memory of those lost to AIDS and those who continue to suffer and die because of anti-gay prejudice and discrimination."

The candles will form a "Monument of Truth, Love, and Understanding," which will be erected on a pond in a park near the French Quarter. To sponsor one or more candles, send \$2 per candle, along with the name of the person being remembered and the reason for the remembrance, to: Night of Light and Love, P.O. Box 850413, New Orleans, LA 70185.

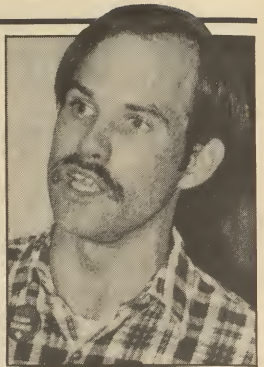
Two favorite activist groups from San Francisco and New York also have announced plans to visit the Republican convention. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are planning a mock jazz funeral for a dead elephant, according to Sister Sadie the Rabbi Lady. And New York's Gay Freedom Ride, repeating its Atlanta approach, will participate in the New Orleans ACT NOW actions before continuing its travels throughout the South. The post-Republican convention leg of the Freedom Ride will take activists to Jackson, Little Rock, Memphis, and Baton Rouge.

The Freedom Ride "conducts voter registration drives, promotes coming out, confronts homophobes, and holds protests at businesses, homes, and offices," according to spokesperson Neil Broome.

MEDIA CENTER

As at the Democratic convention, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Human Rights Campaign Fund—operating under the umbrella "Gay and Lesbian VOICE '88"—will staff a media/action center at a local hotel. "The center will facilitate press contacts and gay and lesbian delegate caucusing," said NGLTF's Urvasi Vaid. "It will also be an information clearing-house and a center for gay and lesbian activities."

Vaid said NGLTF and HRCF will talk with Bush's campaign in advance "and raise the full range of gay and lesbian issues. We fully intend to talk about the past eight years," she said. "The ideologies in this administration have been hostile to gay and les-



Paul Boneberg. (Photo: Rink)

bian civil rights; they've done their utmost to thwart our struggle. It has been a very tough eight years to make any progress on the federal level on any gay issue."

Vaid adds that "the [Reagan] administration's conduct on AIDS has been appalling. They've had to be bullied into moving. But now, with the Presidential Commission's report," she said, "the Republican Party has a grand opportunity. Bush was very smart to seize the initiative and support anti-discrimination legislation for persons affected by HIV. He distinguished himself from Reagan. It raised eyebrows throughout the gay community."

Robert Bray of HRCF adds: "Some of the greatest travesties against our community have been committed in the last eight years by the Republicans. We want to be sure that we call them on their record, and then work with Bush and his vice presidential nominee to educate them."

A final—but still tentative—action being planned for the convention is a GLITER civil disobedience protest against the drivers of the French Quarter's horse-drawn carriages. Organizer Mary Stuart says, "A lot of the buggy drivers make really off-color and crude remarks about the gay bars and businesses and about the AIDS Information Center—things like 'This is where the faggots go to fuck, and this is where they go when they want to be cured from AIDS before they all die off.' We're really hoping to organize around this during the convention. We're a small group with a short period of time and no money, but with 15,000 media representatives in town, this is the time to go public."

For further information about any of the gay/lesbian activities in New Orleans, or to donate time or money, contact Rich Magill at (504) 529-5027, John Ognibene at (504) 945-7508, or Mary Stuart at (504) 484-6321. ACT NOW may be reached in care of Mark Kostopoulos at (213) 668-2357. Mobilization Against AIDS' Paul Boneberg is at (415) 863-4676. March On may be contacted via Morris Kight at (213) 463-3928. NGLTF's number is (202) 332-6483; HRCF can be reached at (202) 628-4160. ●

Our Friend Pete

(Continued from page 6)

And Neither are John Vukasin or Vaughn Walker. They were Pete's choices for federal judge. Granted, while on the California Public Utilities Commission Vukasin once drafted an opinion that caused a few eyes to roll. Particularly the part where he wrote, "homosexuals are pervers and homosexuality is perversion." And his calling a litigant "that faggot" did cause stomach twitches in some easily agitated gays. But we have Pete's word on it: There is nothing homophobic about Vukasin.

Nor Vaughn Walker. Now there are some folks who might distort Walker's ruthless mistreatment of a person with AIDS as homophobic. Really, there was no trace of anti-gay bigotry at all, says Pete. You see, Walker was properly representing the wishes of his client, the U.S. Olympic Committee, when he slapped a \$96,000 lien on the home of Tom Waddell. Of course, it was a little messy, what with Tom dying of

AIDS. But Walker had a duty to his client. Never mind that the USOC had written to say they had no intentions of pursuing a lien. And forget the Court of Appeals ruling a year earlier stripping Walker's authority to rob Tom's personal property and home. Sure, Walker would personally gain by collecting the entire \$96,000 under the guise of attorney fees. And no need to recall all of the misstatements and untruths Walker littered courtrooms and Senate hearings with.

The only true issue is whether Walker's conduct was unethical and biased. The answer on both counts is no. Our friend and partner, Pete, gives us his word.

And what a partnership it has been. For six years we have both kept our part of the bargain. We stay tight-lipped every time Pete votes anti-gay. This helps him to maintain a high rating on the Christian Voice/Moral Majority legislative scorecard. (Indeed, his latest rating reflected a two-thirds "correct" voting record.) In exchange, Pete gets to stay in the Senate, and we can take comfort in knowing that we have at least one friend who cares about us. And someday he will even let us know that in a public sort of way. ●

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Gay Activists Join Hospital Strikers

They Chant, 'Put \$\$ Into AIDS, Not Union-Busting!'

by Dennis McMillan

On Tuesday, Aug. 2, approximately 30 psychiatric technicians of Local 250 Hospital and Health Care Workers Union and their gay and lesbian activist supporters demonstrated in front of Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center. The strike, congruent with the current 3,500 hospital workers striking Affiliated Hospitals' one Daly City and seven San Francisco hospitals, has many gay issues and overtones.

Gay labor activist John Mehring led striking gay and lesbian psych techs along with members of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, Stonewall

Gay Democratic Club, AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP), and the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance.

Marching to the chant of



Striking nurses at Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

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"Money for AIDS, Money for health benefits" and carrying placards stating, "Fight AIDS, not workers with AIDS," "Put money into AIDS, not into union-busting," and "Just say no to hospital hypocrisy," the demonstrators carried on a noisy but peaceful protest.

For several weeks the union and hospital have been in negotiation for a new contract to replace the old one that expired April 30. The union rejected PPMC's final offer with a 94 percent vote. The question according to the union, appeared to be: Are health care workers entitled to good health care? The answer came on May 10, when, accord-

ing to Local 250, the hospital "unilaterally implemented cuts in health care and benefits."

Representatives of Local 250 called this action dangerously homophobic in that PPMC refuses to include physical disability and medical condition (specifically AIDS/SARC) in the contract's nondiscrimination clause.

The workers also criticized PPMC's refusal to grant domestic partners bereavement leave. They said it was blatant discrimination favoring heterosexual spouses.

Since the hospital has eliminated seven to 12 days sick time, the workers claim they are forced

to use vacation and holiday leave as sick time.

Union officials claim PPMC has increased the deductible on their old health insurance plan by 100 percent and tacked on monthly premiums, forcing workers to "sign up with the inferior Bay Pacific Health Plan, which is owned by PPMC."

The Bay Pacific Health Plan is attempting to limit AZT dispensing which is not a contract issue but is also being protested by the group. Workers commended PPMC for its visiting nurses, operation concern, and hospice programs. But, they said, these cutbacks and changes have pushed

(Continued on page 19)

Fears of IV Use Near Hospital Are Stilled at Local Meeting

Neighbors Hiss at Hysterical, Anti-Gay Reactionary

by Jay Newquist

A suggestion that all gays "should be killed" was one comment expressed at a tempestuous public meeting held last week amid complaints from residents about a new AIDS hospital planned for the Richmond district.

The 300-bed AIDS facility will open in early 1989 and is destined for 15th Avenue and Lake Street on the site of the former Public Health Service Hospital.

The San Francisco Health Department is spearheading the project, and its officials tried to nullify neighborhood fears of an alleged influx of IV drug users in the area.

Beverly Hayon, director of public information for the Health Department, said the meeting went well, under the circumstances, and that many of the 75 attendees left with many of their questions answered.

"There are obvious problems, but they are not insurmountable," Hayon said, stressing the need for further AIDS education to undo stereotypes that continue to plague many people about the AIDS epidemic.

"The media image is perceived that there are crowds of people shooting up on their way to outpatient clinics," Hayon said.

She added the public meeting was told that IV drug use would be miniscule, if not nonexistent, at or near the new AIDS hospital.

Other public concerns were the effect of the long-term health care facility on parking and foot traffic and the location of the hospital's main entrance.

Hayon said that many people supported the AIDS hospital in the neighborhood and that the

Health Department intended to make Lake Street an integral part of the planning process.

'A NURSING HOME'

Dr. David Werdegar, the director of public health, told the meeting the AIDS facility would serve mainly Bay Area residents. He minimized the impacts and said the hospital would in effect be like an unobtrusive nursing home.

Werdegar has joined forces with Sen. Alan Cranston, Sen. Pete Wilson, Rep. Barbara Boxer, and Rep. Nancy Pelosi to bring the AIDS hospital to San Francisco. Congress has various appropriations under way to fund the facility for renovation and operating expenses.

Gray Brechin, a gay writer who attended the meeting, estimated the audience was equally split for and against the AIDS hospital.

He reported that the reactionary who called for capital punishment for all gays was shouted down by many people who hissed and booed in reply.

"I'm glad the hospital is coming here," Brechin said. "It's great. I understand there is some homophobia about it, but I'd say the main concern is drug use."

The neighborhood especially

fears there will be a new bus route for people to get to the hospital, according to Brechin, and another worry was lowered property values.

He continued that he thought more gay people should have attended the meeting to support the AIDS facility, but he saw only one gay couple.

The meeting was organized by local resident Richard Keenan, whose wife Kathy said many opponents felt better after their concerns about IV drug use were answered.

Keenan said the gut fear was the arrival of an outside element in an area where there are a lot of children under ten years old.

"The AIDS hospital is a necessary thing, it's a big problem, and something needs to be done," she said, indicating the Health Department was receptive but previously unaware of how the neighborhood felt.

Keenan said some people were opposed to the AIDS facility in any form, but there was a cross section of support from people who would become good neighbors.

"We're compassionate about people with AIDS," she said. "Please be compassionate about our neighborhood."

Reagan Ignores Commission Plan

Reduces 579 Proposals to 10 Points; Refuses to Back Anti-Bias Law

by Ray O'Loughlin

Pres. Ronald Reagan's self-styled "action plan" for AIDS has been dubbed by critics as a "ten point inaction plan." Reagan officially responded last week to the 269-page report of the Watkins Commission on AIDS by making ten recommendations on the health crisis. The president's statement included none of the major conclusions of his own AIDS panel.

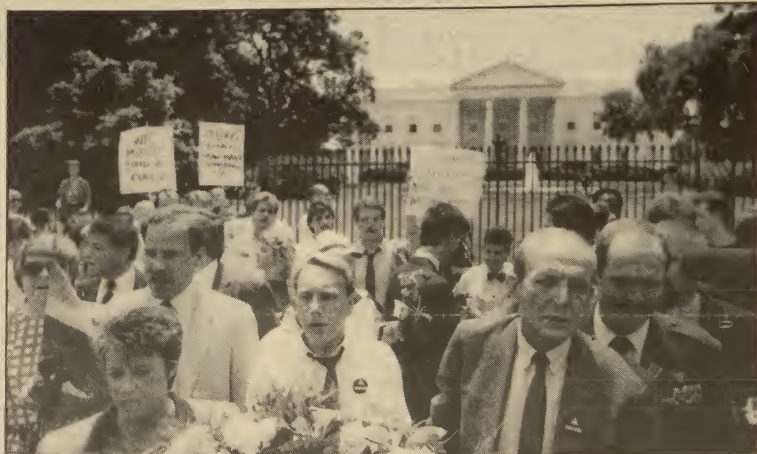
Specifically, Reagan declined to back the proposal of federal legislation banning discrimination on the basis of HIV status. Reagan also ignored the panel's advice to step up federal appropriations to \$3 billion annually. In June the commission had forwarded to the White House a total of 579 recommendations addressing all facets of the AIDS crisis.

In place of those recommendations, Pres. Reagan issued a directive mentioning ten general goals in dealing with the epidemic. He urged wider use of the personnel

guidelines of the federal Office of Personnel Management which prohibit federal workers being fired because of AIDS. He also requested that the attorney general review how the federal government can provide leadership for the adoption of the federal guidelines.

Pres. Reagan called his ten points an "action plan to advance the battle against AIDS." He said it was "consistent with" the recommendations of the AIDS Commission.

But Robert Bray, of the Washington, D.C.-based Human



Years of protests seem to have had no effect.

(Photo: S. Farmer)

Rights Campaign Fund, dismissed Reagan's remarks as "too little too late."

"Considering where Reagan was a year ago when he was talking about routine testing, at least now he's talking about AIDS, using words like 'compassionate,'" said Bray. But, he said, Reagan's plan had "no substance to it, no teeth."

"With no substance behind it, his statement is a benign and convenient election year conversion and not real leadership," said Bray.

STILL HOBBOLED

Ben Schatz, of National Gay Rights Advocates, rebuked the president's remarks, saying, "My only conclusion is that Ronald Reagan is absolutely determined to go down in history as the president who sat on his hands during the epidemic."

Schatz added, "It's clear what is a priority and what is not. It was an ideological decision."

According to Tim Wolfred, director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, "Anti-discrimination legislation is the cor-

nerstone to an effective strategy to combat AIDS. Without it, we're still hobbled."

Wolfred praised Watkins for his report. "Adm. Watkins' report contained several bold strokes and Ronald Reagan has chosen to ignore them." He blamed the homophobia in the Reagan administration for the dumping of the commission's report.

Among the ten points recommended by President Reagan for action against AIDS are:

- Conferences to develop a consensus among public health officials on how to attack AIDS;

- Steps to improve the laboratory testing of the nation's blood supply and development of treatments and a future vaccine for AIDS;

- Non-hospital care programs;
- International initiatives to stem the spread of the disease;

- "All sectors of society" should respond "equitably and compassionately to HIV infection."

Pres. Reagan called on the federal Office of Management

and Budget to remove all impediments to expediting research on AIDS. "That's odd," said Bray, "because many see the OMB as one of the impediments."

Reaction was critical in Congress too. Rep. Barbara Boxer of San Francisco and Marin said that Pres. Reagan's "refusal to back his own commission's recommendation for broad anti-discrimination laws... shows his continued lack of understanding of the critical nature of the AIDS crisis."

Although Reagan urged no discrimination against federal workers with HIV, he refrained from issuing an executive order. "An executive order is needed," said Bray, "because it has the effect of law. His statement has no binding effect."

In effect, he said, Reagan has ordered a study be done on the study of the commission's study.

Bray thought that history will judge Reagan severely for his inaction on AIDS. "In the final analysis, when the history is written, the record will reveal not leadership but an eight-year history of shame," he said. ●

Health Dept., Schools Agree to Unite Their AIDS Education Efforts

by Jay Newquist

The San Francisco Health Department and Unified School District have buried the hatchet after a year-long squabble that jeopardized receipt of a \$700,000 grant for AIDS education in the public schools.

Both sides had co-jurisdiction over the AIDS Education for Youth program that is funded by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, but health officials felt the program should be AIDS intensive while school officials felt AIDS education should be part of the general curriculum.

A memorandum of understanding was recently signed that is designed to have both encampments march to the same drummer and resolve the confusion that has stymied implementation of emergency AIDS instruction.

Chris Nunez, chair of the advisory committee to AIDS Education for Youth, said no one knew who was in the driver's seat since the program had co-chairmen from the health department and school district. She felt the advisory committee had been ignored, especially by school officials.

"There was a clear difference in philosophical approach. The committee thought the AIDS program was for a medical emergency, telling children how AIDS is caught and how to avoid getting it," she said.

"We found out, however, that AIDS education was part of a pretty comprehensive health education program for substance abuse, sex education and health in general."

Nunez said these ancillary topics were important, but that AIDS education was crucial at this time and deserved its own special niche in public schools. She added that confusion was par for the course when two bureaucracies were working together, but the advisory committee urged a truce or else it would not support renewal of the AIDS education grant from the CDC.

The memorandum of understanding details program goals,

management procedures and fiscal policies. It hopes to avoid snafus like the purchase of materials in English only without the knowledge of the advisory committee.

Nunez said these materials were also insensitive to a diverse school population and were aimed at a "white middle-class student." Nunez felt the health department co-chair was frozen out of the picture by the school district and the advisory committee had had enough.

Joan Haskin, health program administrator for S.F. Unified School District, said there were obvious territorial problems that threatened to kill the AIDS education program.

"If we don't stop carping, we'll never move ahead," Haskin said. "There has been a lack of clarity."

The AIDS education program got off to a slow start because staff were hired by lengthy civil service procedures. The CDC imposed the matrix of two co-directors, clouding the goals of AIDS education and blurring its focus.

The first two \$300,000 grants were for teacher training of AIDS content in classrooms and regular training in San Francisco for other school districts. These goals were accomplished. The AIDS Education for Youth has a staff of seven.

Nunez said the advisory committee was especially worried over a lack of responsiveness thus far to two groups: students whose command of English is limited and students with special needs. ●

Sometimes people with AIDS need a friend who will just listen.

Isn't it time to lend an ear?

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The next Emotional Support Training begins September 23rd.



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Brent Henry

Sunday night, July 17, 1988, at Franklin Hospital, just ten days before his 42nd birthday, Brent peacefully entered into his next level of existence after a two-year battle with pneumocystis carinii pneumonia as a consequence of AIDS. He crossed over gently, with his mother, Zoe Henry, at his bedside.

He was born July 27, 1946, in Ogden, Utah, to George T. and Zoe Hunsaker Henry. In 1970 he received a bachelor of science degree in theater arts from Weber State College and later attended the University of Utah before moving to San Francisco in the mid-1970s. He had been employed at the Deli on Union Street as a waiter before successfully completing studies and graduating from the Glen Fishback School of Photography in Sacramento in 1982, becoming a member of the Professional Photographers of America, Inc.

Besides his parents, Brent leaves two brothers, George and Ken; three sisters, Christine, Susan, and Zoe Ann; and numerous nephews and nieces, all residing in the Ogden area. Additionally, he will be sorely missed by Clea and his many friends who made up his San Francisco family.

Brent's wish was that his body be cremated and his ashes scattered in Bryce Canyon in Southern Utah, where he had worked for several years as a youth and later returned as an adult to photograph the majestic landscape he dearly loved.

A memorial birthday celebration was held in his honor on July 27 at his favorite restaurant, La Rocas, by his closest and dearest friends Terry, Robert, and Bill.

Bon voyage, dear friend. We love and miss you. We'll have our acts together when we meet again.

Donations in Brent's name may be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Shanti Project, both of which assisted him and which also benefited by his involvement in research and volunteer work.

Russell W. Stratton

Sept. 28, 1936-May 7, 1988

Russ left us peacefully at 6:45 p.m. Saturday, May 7, after a three-month battle with lung cancer. He had made his farewells with his two brothers and had at his side his younger brother Tom and his lover Roger Roek when he departed this world for a better place. He will be sorely missed and always remembered.

He spent 1971 through 1986 in Colorado, where he was very active in the gay community, working with the Community Center, Athletic Union, bowling league, motorcycle clubs, and a number of bars. He was very fond of Colorado and the mountains, but was heard to say after his return to California, "Now I can see snow when and where I want to!" A sixth-generation Californian, Russ had moved back to California in early 1987 to live in Guerneville, where he could be in the redwoods and near the ocean.

Russ's request was for no funeral, wake, or memorial service; only the instructions: "Just scatter my ashes along the Sonoma coast and have a party!" Accordingly, there will be a memory celebration Aug. 20. For information, contact Roger E. Roek, (707) 869-0706. Donations can be made in Russ's name to Face to Face, the Sonoma County AIDS organization.

Stephen Paul Volentir

Stephen Paul Volentir passed on to his new level of life on July 30, 1988, from complications related to AIDS.

In life, Stephen loved all beautiful things, spending his time in nature and appreciating its many manifestations. Particularly a lover of music, he was an authority on Handel and listened often to opera, lieder, and the songs of Barbra Streisand. An author, Steve's first novel, *Fast Friends*, will hopefully be published soon. When working, Stephen was a legal secretary for the local civil rights firm of Turner & Brorby. In all he did, he sought peace, harmony, and respect for those he touched.

Throughout his difficult struggle for life, Stephen appreciated the support and love he received from Open Hand and the staff at Davies Medical Center and Franklin Hospital. All contributed to making his difficult days easier.

Surviving Stephen are his mother, Violet Volentir, and two brothers, Michael and George, all of Denver, Colorado; his lover, Bob Drake of San Francisco; and his special friends Gerda, Donna, Beth, James, Dan, Don, Andy, and Al, all of San Francisco. Preceding him in death were his dear friends Bill and Brian.

A private celebration of life was held in Bob's and Steve's home on Broderick Street on Aug. 3, 1988. Donations are encouraged for Open Hand or the God-father Service Fund.

Stephen, you are in our hearts forever. Rest in peace, dear, gentle man.

Richard Lee Nelson

1953-1988

Richard passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 3. He knew for several days that he would be leaving his body and was able to

do so in a conscious, aware manner. At the end, Richard was with friends and his family from Battle Creek, Michigan. Many of us had the chance to spend loving time with Richard and say goodbye.

Richard was an economist for the California Public Utilities Commission, tax consultant, Radical Faerie, California Men's Gathering planner, and a hilarious, gentle, loving flirt. He held undergraduate and graduate degrees from Michigan State University and a graduate degree from the University of California at Davis, where he also did doctoral work.

Richard was known and loved for his ability to gather his friends together (he had dozens). Some of Richard's annual events included a summer trip to the Yuba River and a Christmas Eve party. Even in his final days, the hospital rooms and corridors were filled with Richard's friends and family, gathered to say goodbye.

Richard's ashes will be scattered at five places he considered sacred: Baker Beach; San Gregorio Beach; Sleeping Bear Dunes in Michigan; Battle Creek, Michigan; and the Radical Faerie sanctuary at Wolf Creek, Oregon.

A memorial service will be held at the Hartford Street Zen Center, 57 Hartford St., in San Francisco, on Saturday, Aug. 20, at 2 p.m.

Donations in Richard's memory can be made to Nomenus, the Radical Faerie Land Trust, P.O. Box 11655, San Francisco, CA 94101.

"Listen, brother, listen to my heart song—I will never forget you, I will never forsake you."

Michael Edward Wolfe

March 1, 1950-July 21, 1988

Michael peacefully passed from this life to the next on July 21 due to complications resulting from Kaposi's sarcoma.

Ever the adventurous spirit, Michael moved to San Francisco from Atlanta in 1976. Shortly thereafter, he met David Sparks, with whom he shared his life and love for 11 years. In November 1987, they both moved to L.A., where Michael's final months were lived.

His courage and spirit served to inspire all who loved and cared for him. A special thanks to the staff of Kaiser Woodland Hills for all their support and help in making his last months as comfortable and easy as possible.

Michael is survived by his partner David, his family in Pennsylvania, and friends too numerous to mention.

Per his request, no services will be held. Donations in his memory can be made to Shanti Project or AIDS Project Los Angeles.

Goodbye, Michael, and thank you for enriching our lives. I will love you forever.

Kenneth I. Cohen

May 29, 1957-Aug. 1, 1988

Ken passed peacefully from this life in the early morning hours of Aug. 1, thus ending 20 months of living with AIDS.

Born and raised in New York, Ken received his MBA from Yale University in 1981. In 1982 Ken moved to San Francisco to work for the marketing and advertising firm of Foote, Lorne and Belding. Ken's employer and coworkers exhibited a humanity which transcended professional roles, keeping alive a faith in the innate goodness of all persons.

Ken had a great zest for living and enjoyed his own life fully. His love of the theater, music, flowers, animals, shopping, and good food were things he routinely shared with his family and friends.

Ken will be lovingly remembered by his parents Ann and Morris Cohen and by his wide circle of friends from San Francisco and New York.

A funeral service was held in New York Aug. 4, attended by his family and many of his friends. A special memorial service, to be attended by his parents and more of his friends, will be held in San Francisco within the next couple of weeks. For more information, call Jim Hagen at 751-5249. Memorials in Ken's name would be greatly appreciated by contributing to the Shanti Project or to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Thanks for touching our lives, Ken. Peace go with you.

Robert S. Burnham

July 17, 1940-June 11, 1988

For more than a year, Bobby had not been feeling well, but he never stopped or gave up and continued to work and

would not let his illness get him down. Then, in May, he was admitted to UC Medical Center and, after a three-week stay, he passed away after a courageous battle with pneumocystis pneumonia.

He was surrounded by his mother and two sisters from Tennessee and Arkansas. He also leaves behind a lot of friends, among them JoAnn, Joey, Lydia, Tom, Bill, and myself.

Bobby was a very giving person and enjoyed life to the fullest and held no regrets. He was a fountain of youth with a childhood innocence unknown to most of us. His passing leaves a great void to us all, and he is dearly missed.

Bobby, good luck in your new life, and say "hi" to Shorty for Bob and me.

—Love, Joe

Mark James Minix

Nov. 9, 1962-Aug. 4, 1988

Mark died in his sleep at Kaiser in Sacramento. He was only 25.

Born and raised in Sacramento, Mark spent his weekends in S.F., which he loved. He moved to Paris and travelled throughout Europe for 14 months during 1985-86. He returned and had just finished his degree this June, becoming sick at that time. He left us much too quickly.

Mark had the most incredible, sparkling wit that always kept us laughing. He charmed absolutely everyone he met. We'll miss him terribly.

He leaves behind his mother Marlene, with whom he was very close, his sister Kelly, his boyfriend Paul, and many dear friends who loved him. A memorial service will be held Saturday, Aug. 13, at 2 p.m. at Most Holy Redeemer on 18th and Diamond. An additional gathering will follow at 211-A Chattanooga St., S.E. For more information, call John at 864-5333 or Bill at 861-3636.

We miss you, Mark.

Scott Ernest Howell

June 27, 1950-Aug. 5, 1988

Former San Francisco Police Officer Scott Ernest Howell died from complications due to AIDS after 4½ years of illness. He rejoined his lover, Michael Click, and returned to the loving arms of God on Aug. 5, 1988.

Scott was born in Nevada, moved to California, and attended Mount Diablo College. He served with the United States Air Force in Germany and joined the San Francisco Police Force in 1980.

He enjoyed life through photography, readers' theater, playing the piano, cowboys, and riding his Harley.

Scott is survived by his mother Irene Howell, a sister, Sherry Irons; a half-brother and half-sister; a niece and nephew; and good friends.

A requiem mass was offered at the Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist, 1661 15th St. (near Valencia), on Wednesday, Aug. 10, at 1 p.m. Donations to the Rector's Discretionary Fund or the Church Restoration Fund are preferred in lieu of flowers.

Todd Balderson

Sept. 20, 1954-July 26, 1988

"Todd" passed away quietly as a result of AIDS at the University of Arizona

Medical Center at 9:15 a.m. on July 26, 1988, in the company of his parents. Interestingly enough, he awakened that morning feeling very good, and the hospital called his parents to come take him home. When his

parents arrived at the hospital, Todd lapsed into a coma and was gone in 15 minutes.

He was born in Columbia, Tennessee, spent his childhood in Pontiac, Michigan, and graduated from high school in Tucson. He moved to San Francisco in 1978 and was best known as a clerk at Liquor Express on Castro Street. He attended San Francisco State University to become an anthropologist. Upon becoming severely ill in March of this year, he flew home to Tucson to spend his final days with his family. Never during his two years of having AIDS did he give up his hope and positive mental attitude.

Gentle, quiet, and loving Todd may be gone, but his friends, his roommate, and a cat named Mikey will never forget him and those wonderful, penetrating blue eyes.

Gerald B. 'La' Nee

Gerald B. "La" Nee died Aug. 7, 1988, in Los Angeles of a brain aneurysm. Jerry

was born Nov. 8, 1950. He grew up in the Midwest and attended the University of Minnesota. Jerry moved to San Francisco in 1972. He had been an active member of AA since November 1976.

Jerry was involved in many community activities, which included the Living Sober Fashion Show and Acceptance House. In Los Angeles, he was a member of the Stonewall Democratic Club and ACT UP L.A. Jerry worked in real estate both in S.F. and L.A., where he had moved in 1987. He was vice president and broker of City Living Realty at the time of his death.

Blessed with a wonderful sense of humor as well as great personal warmth, Jerry will be greatly missed by Janice, Honey, and the many people who loved him. He is survived by his mother, Helen; brother, William; Aunt Joan and Aunt Edith, all of St. Petersburg, Florida.

Donations are requested to the food bank of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation in place of flowers. A funeral mass will be held at St. Ignatius Church, Fulton and Parker streets, Saturday, Aug. 13, at 10:45 a.m.

Greg Monaghan

Aug. 18, 1925-Aug. 5, 1988

Death came 15 months after complications from Kaposi's sarcoma. Greg was a native Californian born in Compton, but living most of his life in Vallejo.

During World War II, he served with the Army Signal Corps in the Asiatic-Pacific campaign. Three years ago, he retired after 30 years as a Metropolitan Life Insurance agent.

He is survived by four children, six grandchildren, and his love, Bill Schang. All at home were with him when he died.

"Goodnight, sweet prince, and flights of angels sing thee to thy rest."

Gary Bell

Gary Bell rang it in this Aug. 4 after a brave illness. Just 33, he will be remembered by all he met. (Nobody ever forgot Gary.)

A member of the Rainbow Motorcycle Club and former staff member of the legendary Ambush, he would be perfectly happy waving to his friends from an old Airstream Trailer hitched to the back of any car that would run, a Harley strapped on top to ride the mountain meadows, with his buddy Pete by his side. Bless his freewheeling spirit.

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DEATHS

Tommy Ayling

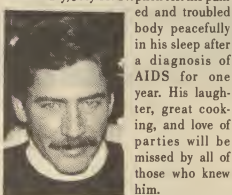
July 13, 1946-July 11, 1988

Tommy Ayling of San Francisco was born in Jamestown, New York. He was employed by Western Exterminating Company. He was preceded in death by his lover of 17 years, Gerald J. Galbraith. He is survived by his parents, Richard and Lee; one sister, Barbara Johnson; two nephews; two nieces; and many loving friends and relatives who will feel a great loss.

Memorial services were held at Comisky Roche Funeral Home Tuesday, July 19, 1988. Private inurnment. The family prefers donations to the S.F. AIDS Foundation.

Stephen Scharding

Our dear friend Stephen passed on into the light in the early morning hours of Monday, July 18. Stephen left his pained and troubled body peacefully in his sleep after a diagnosis of AIDS for one year. His laughter, great cooking, and love of parties will be missed by all of those who knew him.



His remains were delivered to his mother, Jean Scharding, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His friends, happy with the peace he has now, are his lover Albert; roommate Mikal; and his many friends, Kissie, Sherrie, Ron and David, Michael and Jorge, Carl, Jonathan, Jimmie, Don and Jack, Curt, Eddy, and all his friends at the Detour.

Any donations would be appreciated in his name to the AIDS Foundation Food Bank and the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Oscar R. Munoz

Our friend Oscar R. Munoz, 41, passed away Aug. 3, 1988, in San Diego after a courageous, 15-month battle against AIDS.

Born and raised in San Jose, Costa Rica, Oscar came to San Francisco at the age of 18. Five years later he became an American citizen. Most of his life, he resided in San Francisco, a city he dearly loved.

His love of life showed through in his many artistic talents, including his many paintings filled with color, warmth, and love.

He will be missed by his mother, two sisters, and his many friends, including Elias, Daniel, Chip, Ron, and especially Bob, who knew and loved him for more than 20 years.

Rest, my friend, the struggle is over. I know our spirits will touch again someday.

C. David Sabatelli

July 16, 1960-Aug. 2, 1988

David Sabatelli passed away suddenly in the early morning hours of Aug. 2 at his home in San Francisco.

A native of Bridgeport, Connecticut, David was educated at Fairfield University and received a B.S. in nursing. He moved to New York City, where he was employed as an intensive care nurse at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, and in 1985 moved to San Francisco, where he worked at San Francisco General Hospital in the intensive care unit and the recovery room.

David is survived by his mother and father, Nicholina and Daniel; his two brothers Anthony and Daniel; his lover John; his best friends Paulo, Dennis, Victor, and Jo; and many, many friends and relatives who will miss him dearly.

Thomas Robert Long

Thom Long, born in Kokomo, Indiana, in 1951, grew up in the South, living in Florida and in Selma, Alabama, during the civil rights movement.



Adulthood took him to big cities—New Orleans, Chicago, and finally his beloved San Francisco. Well respected in the telecommunications field, his career took him elsewhere many times, but he could never stay away from home for long.

Thom left his body Monday afternoon, July 18, and is sorely missed by loved ones and friends. We can all be at ease in the knowledge of his peaceful release. He courageously welcomed this change, and we wish him the best on his journey to new and ever-greater life.

Strike

(Continued from page 16)

ed the gay and lesbian employees to strike.

Mehring, who is a member of Local 250's negotiating committee, told the press, "Basically there are a lot of issues in the strike, but they can be boiled down to the fact that the hospital is stealing workers' benefits, including health care insurance and sick time leave."

"Primarily at the psychiatric institute, a lot of us are gay men, and many have AIDS or will have AIDS in the near future," Mehring pointed out. "This is a hospital that prides itself on providing good care to patients, including people with AIDS, and we want to show the hypocrisy and contradiction of this health care package," he added.

Several gay political organizations were in attendance, showing their solidarity. Tony Travers, vice president of internal affairs for the Milk Club said, "We don't feel Affiliated Hospitals is treating its workers fairly, and it's important for the gay and lesbian community to support our labor brothers and sisters."

Bill Paul, president of Stonewall Gay Democratic Club said, "We feel that health workers and gay people have a special bond, considering how splendidly health workers have conducted themselves during the AIDS crisis."

Local 250 urged gay men and lesbians to contact PPMC Chief Executive Officer Dr. Bruce Spivey at 563-4321, asking him to "correct the damage done to PPMC's employees and the hospital's reputation in the gay community."

Friday

(Continued from page 10)

terminally ill people. At a Senate hearing last week, Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Frank Young predicted just one or two new AIDS drugs will be approved by 1991.

But Dr. Broder says he is much more optimistic. "So far, the optimists have had a far better track record than the pessimists. We got AZT out much faster than expected," said Broder.

Along with AZT, which works directly against HIV, many drugs are available or being tested for the infections that kill AIDS patients. Already much progress has been made in treating and preventing the biggest killer, pneumocystic carinii pneumonia.

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anteed that services equal in every way to those you selected in the first place will be provided through the GUARDIAN PLAN program wherever you move, and at no increase in the original cost. Now, I think that's a very important benefit.

There's a lot more to learn. And if what I said makes sense to you: Talks to your heart, why not do this: Call for the free, informative booklet, CARING. Call toll free, 1-800-922-7464. The GUARDIAN PLAN people have worked out an easier way to remember that number: 1-800-9-CARING.

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For Rent?

PWA Plans To Take Hotel To Court Over Room Dispute

by Gregory Douthwaite

Like many people with AIDS, Bill Mandrigues has had his suffering compounded by discrimination. Mandrigues wanted to rent a room in a residential hotel at 94 Duboce St. last June. He talked to the manager, Peter Sanders, who agreed to rent him a room.

Mandrigues then asked the manager if he could pay the move-in cost (\$750) with a third-party check from the AIDS Emergency Fund. The manager said he would have to ask. The next day, he was told that the room had been rented to a prior applicant.

Mandrigues felt hurt. He had been staying with a friend at the hotel, and knew there were seven or eight rooms available. "It caused me a lot of grief and a lot of stress," he said. "It was just a bunch of jive all the way."

A friend of Mandrigues called Sup. Harry Britt's office, and he was referred to the city's Human Rights Commission. The commission investigated the complaint and upheld it.

"It is my opinion that the management of 94 Duboce acted unfairly in refusing to rent to Mr. Mandrigues," wrote Fair Housing Officer Edward Iumin in his determination. "He was refused rental housing because he mentioned support from the AIDS (Emergency Fund) and not because the room had been rented to a prior applicant."

"Mr. Mandrigues continued to be homeless when he should have been offered a vacancy. Such a practice jeopardizes Mr. Mandrigues' health and imperils his life."

Mandrigues was referred to a private attorney to help settle the case. John Hill, of Hill, Schwartz & Stenson, plans to file a lawsuit in San Francisco Superior Court this week. The suit will ask for the

maximum in damages allowed by the court.

TO COURT SOON

Hill's legal assistant, Glynn Parmley, said they would ask the court to hear the case as fast as possible due to the circumstances of the complaint.

Mandrigues, 32, was diagnosed with AIDS-related encephalitis and dementia in May. He is in stable condition but his T-cell count has dropped.

Mandrigues is now renting a room at the Russian River. He said he finds it peaceful to be away from the stress of the city, where everything seems to be AIDS-related.

Mandrigues said he is not concerned with the dollar amount of the award, just that justice be served. "I'd like to teach this person something before he allows this shit to go down," he said.

The owner of the hotel, Horst Hans Grahman, was unavailable for comment. Grahman, who also owns the Zeitgeist Bar downstairs, is currently in Hawaii starting another bar. Sanders, reached by telephone, said he did not have enough information to comment.

Lavender Stars

Frameline, College Sponsor Class on Gay Films



Daniel Mangin.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

by Mary Richards

Charlie Chaplin, Shirley MacLaine, Jean Cocteau, and Montgomery Clift have something in common. They'll all be part of the lesbian and gay film class, which is presented by San Francisco City College. It begins on Monday, Aug. 15.

Daniel Mangin will teach the 16-week course from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Monday evenings at a location convenient to the Castro: the college's Everett Middle School campus, 16th and Church streets.

When he was asked about how he felt about the fall semester class, Mangin said, "I'm tickled. I'm really quite excited about it! It will look like it came there by magic, but it took a lot of work. It's been two years in the making."

"It's a new academic field. There isn't a lot of research on gay and lesbian films. There are

a few books and a number of articles about it, but it's still a new field of study, so I'm excited about that."

The textbook for the class will be the Vito Russo book, *The Celuloid Closet*. Like Mangin, Russo is associated with Frameline, the organization which produces the San Francisco International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

Mangin consulted with Russo about the course and says Russo "gave a lot of first-hand advice. He was thrilled that we could get this thing off the ground," said Mangin.

The special class to study gay and lesbian film is part of the budding gay and lesbian studies program at City College and offers students and interested film buffs a chance to see first-hand how the subject of homosexuality has been treated on the screen

from 1915 to 1988.

Mangin says, "I really feel that it will be helpful. Not only to a gay student who is able to see a gay image, talk about the way gays have been represented, and maybe understand why society reacts the way it does, but also it's good for the public at large to have that kind of information available."

Mangin has an MBA in video, is a short-story writer, and is a member of the film screening committee of Frameline. He credits that organization and the people who are a part of it with "helping to get the class off the ground. They are the number to call for information," he says. "They've been getting three or four calls a day since we've been passing the flyers out. There is a lot of interest in the class."

Highlights of the three-credit course, which runs until December, feature some of the brightest lights of the Hollywood of the past, as well as the present.

Students will see Greta Garbo's famous "good-morning kiss" with a countess from the 1933 classic, *Queen Christina*. Garbo dresses in drag in the film, and Daniel says it has "gender-bender aspects to it."

In the movie *A Woman*, Charlie Chaplin is transformed into a female. "His features are so fine," said Mangin, "he looks wonderful as a woman. He does it almost in a very straightforward manner and doesn't try to camp it up."

In 1951 the famous French writer Colette wrote the screenplay for *Olivia*, which was called *The Pit of Loneliness* when it was released in the United States. Daniel says, "Vito Russo called it one of the few films of the '50s to deal openly with lesbianism. He credits her with producing a script which was unblinking about the passions that the two women [in the film] have for each other."

Calls for information about the course can be directed to Frameline at (415) 861-5245. Registration is handled through City College, and people can register for Film 120C, "Evolution of Film Expression: Homosexuality on Film," in the lobby the first night of class. Tuition is \$15 for the semester.

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BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Face to Face to Receive \$60,000 for PWAs From Sonoma County Supes

Fundraising Event Also Pencilled in for September

by Jay Newquist

The Sonoma Board of Supervisors is expected to approve a \$60,000 grant to meet the increasing needs of area persons with AIDS.

The money will go to Face to Face in Guerneville, the only agency in Sonoma providing direct care to PWAs, whose numbers are predicted to increase from the current 130 clients to 250 next year.



Inside the offices of Face to Face.

Face to Face was founded in 1984, and it provides emotional support to PWAs through its 100 volunteers; support groups; direct, in-home care; and emergency financial assistance.

Rick Dean, special events coordinator for Face to Face, said the recent meeting of the Sonoma Board of Supervisors was quite moved by the presence of PWAs.

"The board is very experienced, I can't possibly believe they

wouldn't give the grant to us," Dean said, indicating Face to Face was not in direct financial trouble.

He explained that its new \$350,000 budget would come directly from the local community and that Face to Face could not continue to operate without some outside, direct governmental assistance.

The agency has seven full-time employees who serve all PWAs

and PWARCs in Sonoma County. "We are doing a good job, no one is going without care," Dean said, "but we have to expand in order to continue serving our clients well."

Dean said the doubling of the client load was pinpointed to gays who had abandoned San Francisco to seek a quieter pace of life in Guerneville.

Face to Face recently moved into new quarters that they rent. A fundraising effort is slated for Sept. 25, when Face to Face stages the Sonoma County Artists for AIDS event. More than 60 local artisans have donated works for auction. All proceeds from the auction and entertainment will go to do the agency's work.

To make a contribution to help Face to Face, write P.O. Box 1599, Guerneville, CA 95446. •

San Mateo Co. Offers AIDS Test

Individuals who are concerned about having been exposed to the AIDS virus can get the HIV antibody test at the San Mateo County Public Health Clinic.

Anonymous testing is provided on Tuesday and Friday mornings between 8:30 and 11 a.m. Confidential testing is available every afternoon, Monday through Friday, from 1 to 4 p.m. All tests are free and are given on a drop-in basis; no appointment is required.

The clinic is located in the County Health and Welfare Building at 225 W. 37th Ave., west of El Camino Real in San Mateo.

Any individual who believes he or she may have been exposed to the HIV virus which causes AIDS may want to consider being tested. The AIDS virus can be transmitted through unprotected sexual intercourse of any type or through the sharing of needles during IV drug use. Some people

may have been infected from blood transfusions prior to March of 1985, before testing of the blood supply was available.

All individuals seeking the antibody test are counseled beforehand about what the test means and whether they want to take it. When an individual returns for the results seven to ten days later, further counseling is provided as to the meaning of the results. Individuals with positive test results, which indicate that they are infected with the virus, are given referrals for medical and emotional support services.

The Health Department protects the anonymity and confidentiality of test results.

Testing for other sexually transmitted diseases is also available on weekday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. and Monday and Wednesday evenings between 5 and 7 p.m. •

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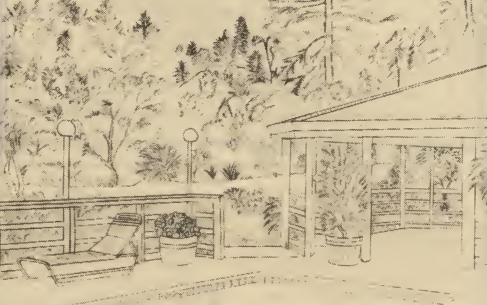
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**AL FRESCO AFTERNOON
(A Sunburned Nose)**

Camaraderie on the Lawn

The Third Annual Barbecue of the People, by the People, for the People was held Sunday, Aug. 7, on the grounds of Fairmont Hospital. The crowd didn't seem quite as large as last year, but, for the most part, the camaraderie and kinship was as keen as it has ever been. It was good to see more patients from the hospital



Alex before . . .

this year. (I don't know why some were told by hospital staff to have lunch before they could go on out and enjoy the barbecue.)

The addition, this year, of "game" booths was a welcome diversion for those with some athletic ability or just plane luck. By far, the two most popular booths were Bench & Bar's dunking attraction, and Turf Club's pie throwing production. The "dunking" was performed by Alex, Jim Malone, B.J., Steve V., Cookie, and a youngster who had quite a good throwing arm. The pastry receivers included Jose (I've heard of putting on a black face, but he was putting on a white face with whipped cream!), Frumpy, Danny, Larry, Michelle, and Val and David M. as a duo.

Town & Country had a ping pong toss for gold fish, Big Mama's held a bingo arena plus a 50/50 raffle, and Spoiled Brat had a dime toss. Raven manned a Wheel of Fortune offering various and sundry stuffed animals.

Entertainment (aside from the dunking and pie'ing) consisted of a routine by comedian Danny Williams, a charming puppet show by George Buchanan, and a few numbers by the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band.

All the food—bread, coleslaw, macaroni, and potato salads, corn on the cob, barbecued ribs and chicken, and watermelon—plus all the beer, wine, and soft drinks, was donated by various bars and individuals who wish to remain anonymous. All the food was free! Only the booths and drinks were being sold. That money went to Fairmont Hospital's Canteen Fund.

Past and present royalty was certainly well represented: Ed & Suzie, Frumpy & Stephanie, Chuck & Carlos, David & Chuckles, Carlos & Tootsi, and Cha Cha (visiting from Palm Springs with her new husband.)

It was a wholesome and satisfying afternoon. The powers that be can most certainly be justifiably proud.

**LIEGES OF TINCTURE
PALAVER
(A Specter Nose?)**

Men of Color Conference II: "Healing The Illusion Of Differences" will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. This presentation will be held at Capp Street Center, 362 Capp St. (between 18th and 19th streets), San Francisco.

The 1987 Men of Color Conference was the first of its kind to be held anywhere. It was very successful, and this year's should be no exception. The goal of the conference is to bring men of color together in a common ground of friendship, unity, and concern. It is a forum to learn about similarities, celebrate differences, and move toward positive action.

This year the scheduled workshop topics include: Men of Color in the Men's Movement; AIDS in Third World Communities; Communication Among Men of Color; Drugs, Alcohol and Violence; and Bi-Racial Men of Color.

Registration is limited to the first 150 applying. Registration fee is \$25 until Aug. 31 and \$30 thereafter. Lunch is included with the conference fee, with a preference of strict vegetarian, fish/chicken okay, or any meat okay. If the cost of registration presents a financial hardship, a sliding scale can be arranged. Please call Bart Casimir, 861-3237, or Ron Franklin, 436-7435, for further information.

Please send registration fee, along with name, address, and day/night phone to Men of Color Conference II, 3326 13th Ave., Oakland, CA 94610-4013.

**FLOTSAM ROBUSTNESS
(A Partying Nose)**

The Driftwood Lounge is holding a 60 continuous hours

soiree called "Party Hearty to the Beat of AIDS!" on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Aug. 26, 27 and 28.

Friday's festivities include Schnapps for a buck a shot, raffle tickets with each drink for prize drawings every half hour, a sassy bartender named Bess with her famous veggies and dip, disco warm-up, beer/shot for \$2, gay men and drag show contestants, half off door cover (with a contest at midnight).

Saturday's symposium includes after-hours live DJ with dancing until dawn, a Latin breakfast of chorizo and eggs for \$3, special drink prices, raffle tickets for drawings every half hour, free movie and popcorn, tea dance, casino night in Little Reno (\$7 at the door), and disco warm-up.

Sunday's shindig includes after-hours live dance party with buffet and drinks, pancake breakfast for \$3, 50 cent Schnapps if you're wearing a tank top, special guest appearance, '50s/'60s dance party, stereo raffle drawing, and special drink prices.

Check the flyer and in-house advertising for the exact times of each offering. All proceeds will be divided among B.A.S.H., East Bay Assistance Fund, and In Memory Foundation. The Driftwood Lounge is located at 22170 Mission Blvd. on Hayward's "miracle mile!"

**OMNIUM-GATHERUM
(A Melange Nose)**

Mercy! Talk about some wrong judging and assumptions. I had no grudges nor axes to grind with the participants of the dunking booth and pie throwing booth. Hey! Would that I had had the opportunity to take a turn in the "hot seats."

Tickets are now on sale at DJ's in Walnut Creek for the event of the year: the big AIDS benefit at Dr. Silverman's estate. Your \$75 ticket includes food, live music, drawings for Hawaii, Lake Tahoe, VCR, theater tickets, dinners, \$200 worth of gambling chips, plus much, much more. It will be held Saturday, Aug. 13, from 7 p.m. to midnight. For information, call DJ's at 930-0300.

Also at DJ's join "Dave and Friends" on Saturdays during August at the piano at 9 p.m. In addition, enjoy bartenders Jim (Sunday and Monday), Richard (Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday),

(Continued on next page)



. . . Orca after. (Watch out for the tidal wave!)

Blood

(Continued from page 1)

urges interested members of the community to write to the [blood bank's] board of directors."

Perkins confirmed Chinn's statement. "I would be delighted to present letters supporting the Milk Club's position to our board," Perkins said. "I am supportive of their position."

Chinn told Bay Area Reporter that, because of the uncertain nature of location at the moment, the Milk Club's Women's Day Blood Drive, scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 20, will take place at Irwin Memorial Blood Bank's 270 Masonic Ave. location.

SUPPORTIVE LESBIANS

Lesbians and others who are in low risk groups for AIDS have held blood drives in the Castro for the last several years. That would all come to a stop as the blood bank reacts to charges that blood given in the Castro is "tainted." Chinn reports that "better than 95 percent" of all Castro donors are lesbians.

A blood drive organized by Arm-to-Arm had already been pulled from the Castro by Irwin. The group was forced to transfer blood donors from the Castro to the Irwin offices, where blood bank officials believe donations would not be stigmatized by the Castro.

In a statement, the Milk Club told the blood bank, "Because of the nature of our particular blood drive and the fact that many members of our organization are not eligible to donate under current donor guidelines mandated by Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, we must make an appeal for blood donations to those who are considered least likely to be infected by the AIDS virus. We therefore rely on the generosity of the lesbian community to



Bob Sokol registers donors for the Arm in Arm blood drive.

(Photo: Rink)

unite in the fight against AIDS and to fill the void created by gay men, who had formerly been able to donate prior to 1978."

The statement continued, "We have encouraged only women to donate and have utilized our network within the lesbian community to solicit these donations."

"The Castro district, as a blood donation site, provides a comfortable, nonclinical, and supportive environment to our target population, which often prefers to have its activities and identity anonymous." They noted that the drive is successful because it is viewed as being sensitive to the considerations of the prospective donors. They also pointed out that the drive provides a blood fund for people with AIDS and ARC, to offset the financial burdens they face.

The Women's Day Blood Drive has been honored by groups and civic officials ranging from former Mayor Dianne Feinstein and the board of supervisors to the Roman Catholic Church. The blood bank, which wants to move the drive, has even honored the effort.

Since 1985 the Milk Club's Women's Day Blood Drive has issued over 500 credits to people with AIDS and ARC.

The sweeping hysteria accompanying the Castro blood-drive reports caused the blood bank to panic. Irwin director of operations Vince Yalon said, "Even the slightest suggestion that the blood bank might be compromising the safety of community blood supplies is enough to warrant a change in perspective. In this case, it meant changing the

location of the blood drive."

FRIGHTENING PRECEDENT

Chinn said that if the Irwin Blood Bank bows to the pressure tactics of Day, "a frightening precedent may be set." Chinn noted that a domino effect would be set up, where people would start isolating the Castro, using the blood bank's directive as an example.

The scare tactics have become increasingly alarming because the blood bank has maintained that it has a screening process to isolate any unsafe blood. This includes blood infected with the AIDS virus.

Maurice Belote, president of the Milk Club, said that the actions by the blood bank have created a concern by several elected officials. He said Mayor

Art Agnos and Sup. Harry Britt are aware of the problem. "They are very concerned, and their offices have been extremely cooperative," he said. For the last several days, he and other members of the club have been thrust into meetings with health officials where they have had to actually prove that the Castro is not an unsafe area for blood drives. "It is infuriating and a waste of time, but it has to be done," Belote said.

Though they expect to win, the Milk Club has put the emphasis on the medical, not the political aspects of this controversy. In a press announcement dated Aug. 1, the club states that this year's Women's Day Blood Drive will be held at the main headquarters of the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 20. They state, "With an increase in the use of AZT therapy in the treatment of AIDS, we have seen an escalation in the number of transfusions, as well."

Nez

(Continued from previous page)

Skip (Thursday), and Tony (Saturday).

The fantastic Michael Greer will be at the Spoiled Brat Sunday, Aug. 14. His show will start at 8 p.m., and there will be a \$5 door charge. Proceeds will go to East Bay Assistance Fund.

Sources tell me the preliminary accounting from that evening with "Cats Who Care" will add something in the neighborhood of \$4,000 to the coffers of E.B.A.F. That's certainly not a bad neighborhood!

I honestly feel every job should be open to everybody, with equal pay, unless a particular job actually requires a penis or a vagina. I can smile at that!

—Love, Nez ●

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JAPANTOWN BOWL FALL BOWLING LEAGUES



Las Vegas Holiday League

At the conclusion of the bowling season, every bowler in this league will spend a fun-packed weekend in fabulous Las Vegas (Fri, Sat & Sun). The trip will be June 2-4, 1989. Everyone in this league goes to Las Vegas; not just the first place team, everyone. League starts on September 26, four bowlers to a team. Cost is \$13.00 (includes trip) per week—90% handicap. Bowls on Mondays at 8:45 p.m.

Tuesday Community League

This league bowls on Tuesdays at 8:45 p.m. This is currently the largest gay league at Japantown Bowl and is expected to grow fast. League costs \$9.00 per person per week, five bowlers to a team—90% handicap. Starts September 20.

Wednesday Community League

The most competitive league at Japantown. This league bowls on Wednesday at 8:45 p.m. League will start on Sept. 21, five bowlers to a team. Cost is \$8.50 per week—80% handicap.

Thursday Community League

This is the only weekday gay bowling league in San Francisco—bowls on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m., starts on Sept. 29. Cost is \$6.50, three bowlers to a team—90% handicap.

Hawaii Vacation League

This league ends the season with a trip to Hawaii as its grand finale. Everything is included in your league fees each week, just like the Las Vegas league. Everyone goes to Hawaii at the season's end, not just the first-place team. The league starts on Sept. 2. Cost is \$20.00 per week, four bowlers to a team—90% handicap. The trip will be in early June 1989. League bowls on Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Reno League

Everyone in this league will go to Reno at the end of the season. Reno trip is included in league fees. League bowls at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$11.00 per week. Starts on Nov. 13—90% handicap.

These leagues have all been designed for the novice bowler, as well as the experienced bowler—they're all fun, regardless of your level of ability. The emphasis is on fun!

If you wish further information or want to join any of these leagues, contact:
Terry Kaplan, (415) 921-6200.



THIS

FRIDAY 12

• **Jerker:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$12. Robert Chesley's drama has been extended. Call 861-5079 for tickets.

• **One Fool, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Dutch:** stage performance, the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m., \$8. Terry Baum returns from a worldwide tour to open her latest one-woman show. Call 861-5079 for tickets.

• **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 9:30 p.m., \$10, two-drink minimum. Call 788-8379 for reservations.

• **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance, Jenner Playhouse, Highway 1, 20 minutes west of Guerneville via 116, \$7.50. Call (707) 865-2905 for more information.

• **Seth Montfort:** piano recital, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$6. Featuring original compositions.

• **Tom Ammiano:** comedy, Holy City Zoo, 409 Clement St., S.F., 9 and 11 p.m. Call 386-4242 for more information.

• **Cabaret Night With Viva:** Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 p.m.

• **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 9 p.m.—2 a.m., \$2 cover. With DJ Mike Dianella.

• **Modern Music Friday:** with DJ Steve Masters, B Street, 236 B St., San Mateo, 9 p.m., cover.

• **Club Infra-Red:** dancing, Scooters, 22 4th St., S.F., 9 p.m.—2 a.m., cover. Sound by Randy Schiller. Call 777-0880 for more information.

• **Sing-Along:** with Frank Banks on the piano, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 p.m.

• **Dick Froggiani:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

• **The Official 100th Birthday Party:** a salute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and the best of Irving Berlin, Plush Room, York Hotel, 940 Sutter St., S.F., 8 and 10:30 p.m., \$12.50. Featuring Darlene Popovic, Sam Gray, James Matthew Campbell, The Jesters, Rusty Frank, and Richel Etterman.

• **Jon Sugar:** celebrates his 39th birthday, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 8 p.m., free. Featuring Kozmzy Layde, Jai Jai Noire, Paul Dubois, Satero, K.C. Frogg, Tom Shearer, Bombi, Mark Salzweid, Thayer, Karl Becker, Rob Goldstein, and Jeff Terflinger.

• **Leather/Pagan Piercing Ritual:** with piercers Jim Ward and Fakir Musafar. Call 621-6294 for reservations and more information.

• **American Uniform Association:** Bay Area Brigade muster, Powerhouse, 1347 Folsom St., S.F., 9 p.m.—1 a.m. Bootblack provided. Call 626-4594 for more information.

• **Black and White Men Together:** East Bay potluck, 3135 Courtland Ave., Oakland, 7:30-10 p.m. Call 261-7922 for more information.

• **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** legal clinic for seniors, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., by appointment. Co-sponsored by Legal Assistance to the Elderly. Call 626-7000 for more information.

• **Gay Basketball:** pickup games, 1525 Waller St., S.F., 6:30 p.m. Call 621-2710 for more information.

• **Church of the Secret Gospel:** fetish night, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 9 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more information.

SATURDAY 13

• **1988 Miss California Continental Beauty Pageant:** Cory Productions presents the official preliminary to the Miss Continental USA Pageant, California Club, 1750 Clay St., S.F., doors open 6 p.m., show begins 7 p.m., \$15-\$20. Featuring Miss California Continental 1987 Vanessa Santoni, Miss Continental USA 1987 Dana Douglas, Desi Ray & Co., Estrado of Los Angeles, Jim "Felicia" Flint, and Leslie Rajeane. Call 928-5988 for more information.

• **Jerker:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **One Fool, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Dutch:** stage performance 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).

• **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

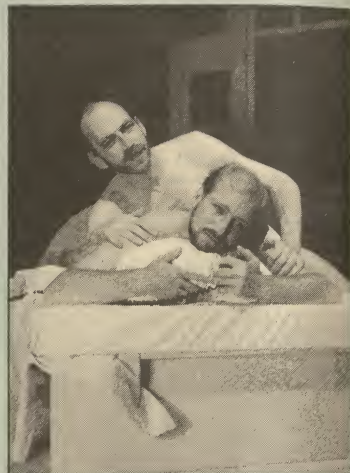
• **Cabaret Night With Viva:** Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 p.m.

• **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 9 p.m.—2 a.m., \$4. With D.J. Mike Dianella.

• **Mark Levine:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

• **Club Infra-Red:** dancing (see Friday listing for details).

• **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).



Robert Chesley's *Jerker* has been extended at Theatre Rhinoceros until Aug. 21
(Photo: Savage Photography)

• **Wild Fire Band:** country/western music and dancing, Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 9 p.m., no cover. Also Sunday at 6 p.m.

• **Tom Ammiano:** comedy (see Friday listing for details).

• **The Official 100th Birthday Party:** a salute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and the best of Irving Berlin (see Friday listing for details).

• **East Bay FrontRunners:** run on Sequoia-Bayview Trail in Joaquin Mill Park. Take Highway 13 (Warren Freeway) to Joaquin Miller Road/Lincoln Avenue exit. Follow signs to Joaquin Miller Road. Go east (uphill) on Joaquin Miller Road 1.2 miles. Turn left on Skyline Boulevard and continue 0.4 miles to the trail head (on the left). Park on side of road. Flat, three-mile loop. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more information.

• **Pool Tournament:** eight-ball, Overpass, 482-A Hayes St., S.F., 4 p.m., \$4 entry fee includes well drink, beer, or wine. S.F. Pool Association rules apply.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** fun run. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F.; no-host brunch follows. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.

• **Piercing Clinic:** with Jim Ward of the L.A. Gauntlet, Mr. S Leathers, 1779 Folsom St., S.F., noon to 5 p.m. Call 863-7764 for appointment.

• **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** discussion on legal rights for older lesbians and gay men, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 10 a.m. to noon. Part of a six-part series on helping older adults. Call 626-7000 for more information.

• **Men Seeking Relationships:** mixer/workshop, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30-10 p.m., \$5. Sponsored by the Partners Institute. Call 343-8541 for more information.

• **Church of the Secret Gospel:** phallic fellowship, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 10 p.m. Call 621-1887 for more information.

• **Game Night:** for persons living with AIDS/ARC and HIV+, Rest Stop Support Center, 134 Church St., S.F., 7 p.m., free. Call 621-REST for more information.

SUNDAY 14

• **Michael Greer:** comedy, Spoiled Brat, 22648 Mission Blvd., Hayward, \$5 to benefit the East Bay Assistance Fund. Call 782-2728 for more information.

• **Jerker:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **One Fool, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Dutch:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).

• **Sundays With Scott Johnston:** music, the Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 5:30 p.m., \$5.

• **Caylia Chaiken and Solomon Rose:** music, the Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$8. With Donald Eldon Wescoat at the piano.

• **The Official 100th Birthday Party:** a salute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and the best of Irving Berlin, 8 p.m., \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Viva Brazil:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 p.m., \$5.

• **Seth Montfort:** piano recital, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 3 p.m., \$4. Featuring the works of Chopin.

• **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

• **Jones Street Follies:** female impersonation, Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., shows 10 and 11 p.m., \$2.

WEEK

• **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 6 a.m.-2 a.m., no cover. With DJs Randy Tyler, Damion Johnson, and Mark Watkins.

• **Piercing Clinic:** with Jim Ward of the L.A. Gauntlet, Image Leather, 2199 Market St., S.F., noon to 5 p.m. Call 922-7551 for appointment.

• **High Tech Gays:** annual picnic, Hellyer Park, South San Jose, noon, \$3 plus bring something to grill, a dish to share, and an outdoor game.

• **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** brunch for older gay men (60+) and friends, Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero St., S.F., noon to 3 p.m., bring food to share. Call 626-7000 for more information.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Arguello Gate run. Meet at the gate to the Presidio at Arguello and Jackson streets at 10 a.m. for two to three very hilly miles. Call 626-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.

• **Tsunami Masters Swim Team:** practice, King Pool, 3rd and Carroll streets, S.F., 10 a.m. Call 285-5659 for more information.

• **Men's Clinic:** free and confidential VD testing and treatment; counseling and referrals for men with AIDS/ARC concerns, Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 6-8 p.m. Call 644-0425 for more information.

• **AIDS Interfaith Network of the East Bay:** community healing service, Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 3755 13th Ave., Oakland. Call 523-5011 or 482-3937 for more information.

• **Diablo Valley MCC:** worship service, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 10 a.m. Call 827-2960 for more information.

• **Radiant Light Ministries:** service, Kabuki Theatre, 1881 Post St., S.F., 9 a.m. Call 861-1667 for more information.

• **New Life MCC:** worship service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 p.m. Call 843-9355 for more information.

• **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 2124 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, 5 p.m. Call 368-0188 for more information.

• **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship service, Olive and Throckmorton streets, Mill Valley, 10:45 a.m. Call 388-2315 for more information.

• **Golden Gate MCC:** worship service, 48 Belcher St., S.F., 12:30 and 7 p.m. Call 621-6300 for details.

• **S.F. Spikes:** soccer practice, West Sunset Soccer Fields, Sunset Blvd., Noriega and 39th streets, S.F., 6 p.m. Call 821-4248 for more information.

• **Country and Western Dance Lessons:** Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. Also Tuesday and Thursday.

TUESDAY 16

• **Elvis By The Living:** a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund in honor of the 11th anniversary of Elvis Presley's death with the Memphis G Spots and Jimmy Welsey, Chuck Davis, Gary Claxton, and The Muscrats, DNA Lounge, 375 11th St., S.F., doors open 9 p.m., show begins 10 p.m., \$5.

• **The Official 100th Birthday Party:** a salute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and the best of Irving Berlin, 8 p.m., \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Gay and Lesbian Sierrans:** monthly meeting, Sierra Club, Polk and Ellis streets, S.F., 7:30 p.m. Slides from previous hikes will be shown, and information will be given out about forthcoming camping trips, day hikes, and bicycling events.

• **Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators:** Sonoma County Chapter meeting. Call (707) 433-9158 for more information.

• **Gay Men's Sketch Class:** 1229 Folsom St., S.F., 7-10 p.m., \$10. German artist/athlete Michael Goepferd will model. Bring own materials. Call 621-6294 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 17

• **Danny Williams, Teresa Holcomb, and Bill Burnett:** comedy, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 8-10 p.m., \$4 cover, one-drink minimum.

• **Boy Club:** dancing, I-Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F. Call 668-6023 for more information.

• **Trocadero Transfer:** weekly dinner/dance, 520 4th St., S.F., dinner 6-9 p.m., \$5.95. Call 495-6620 for more information.

• **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).

• **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

• **The Official 100th Birthday Party:** a salute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and the best of Irving Berlin, 8 p.m., \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Electric City:** television on PCTV in Peralta at 9:30 p.m. Featuring Renee Hicks, Ilse Kornreich, Romanovsky and Phillips, and a visit to the Ego Reduction Clinic.

• **AIDS Memorial Mass:** for people who have died of AIDS/ARC, St. Mary's Cathedral, Geary and Gough streets, S.F., 7 p.m. Reception will follow.

THURSDAY 18

• **Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt:** only local display this summer at San Mateo County Fair (through Aug. 21), along with the photographic exhibit by Jim Wigler call "Faces of AIDS," Exposition Hall of the Fairgrounds, noon to 10 p.m. Special ceremony featuring San Mateo County Supervisor Tom Nolan, local panelmakers, and representatives of the Names Project at 7 p.m. Call 574-3247 for more information.

• **Puttin' on the Glitz:** with female impersonators and cabaret guys, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).

• **Jerk:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

• **The Official 100th Birthday Party:** a salute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and the best of Irving Berlin, 8 p.m., \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Roundtable Discussion:** presented by Bay Area writers, publishers, and booksellers who attended the Third International Feminist Bookfair in Montreal, Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 p.m., free.

• **Drug and AIDS Testing on the Job:** will be discussed on the television show *On The Job*, cable channel 25, 8 p.m.

• **Outlook:** television at Club St. John, 170 W. St. John St., San Jose, 8 p.m., \$2. Call (408) 947-1667 for more information.

• **Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group:** meeting, Palo Alto YWCA, 7:30-9 p.m. This week's topic is "Lesbians on Television." Call 969-1260 for more information.

• **Black and White Men Together:** rap, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30-10 p.m. Ken Alexander will talk about "My Years With CUAV." Call 931-BWMT for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 p.m. on Thursdays.

MONDAY 15

• **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** support group for older gay men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. Call 626-7000 for more information.



Samm Gray and others will salute Irving Berlin's 100th birthday through Aug. 21 at the Plush Room (Photo: J. Dusch)



THE
Spoiled Brat
presents.....
MICHAEL GREER

(Exclusive Bay Area Appearance)
Sunday Aug. 14
8 pm

a benefit for:
East Bay Assistance Fund
tickets \$5.00
22648 Mission Blvd. Hayward 782-2728



BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Say 'Cleese'

John Talks About 'Wanda' and That Special Python Gay Humor

by Steve Warren

John Cleese is too modest to confirm or deny the rumor that it was difficult to find a large enough framed photograph to keep things decent in his nude scene in *A Fish Called Wanda*. Instead he refers to Jamie Lee Curtis' appearance on *The Tonight Show*, where she held her thumb and forefinger about two inches apart and told host Jay Leno, "John has a short ... attention span."

The publicity blitz for the film is practically unprecedented in recent times, a throwback to the ballyhoo of Hollywood's "Golden Age." It's working, drawing an audience to the Anglo-American comedy that could easily have been overlooked had it been allowed to open quietly.

Cleese and co-star (with Curtis and Kevin Kline) Michael Palin are, of course, one third of the legendary team that gave us *Monty Python's Flying Circus*, a series produced by the BBC between 1969 and 1974 that is still being broadcast in the U.S. They haven't all worked together since their last film, *Monty Python's The Meaning of Life*, but are starting to talk about a reunion concert next year, perhaps at the Hollywood Bowl, to mark their 20th anniversary.

"It would be almost churlish not to celebrate it," Cleese says. He doesn't think it will be filmed because there's already a film, *Monty Python at the Hollywood Bowl*, which captured them at their peak. (Palin thinks *Life of Brian* represents their best work on film.)

Monty Python's Flying Circus was noteworthy for the amount of gay and camp humor it contained, especially at a time when American television was still shy about mentioning us in any context.

Palin speculated when I asked him a few years ago that it stemmed from the five Brits in the group having gone to all-male public (boarding) schools where homosexuality is not uncommon.

"Was there a lot?" Cleese asks when the subject of the show's gay jokes is raised. Looking back, he thinks he and Graham Chapman wrote most of the sketches—"Mr. Equator," for instance—with gay content. Chapman was the only gay member of the sextet, although in their first American publicity tour (for *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*) a Rolling Stone interviewer asked Terry Jones, "All six of you are gay, right?"

One thing that fostered that idea was the fact that the men played female roles almost as often as male on the show—usually drab housewives; they had actress Carol Cleveland on hand when a sexpot was called for. Cleese, whose script for *A Fish Called Wanda* points out

many differences between England and America, adds one more to the list. "Drag is not even considered one percent gay in England."

"When children first go to the theater in England it's to pantomime." He rattles off a list of eight fairy tales, including *Cinderella*, *Snow White*, *Puss In Boots* and *Dick Whittington and His Cat*. "In those shows the love story is always carried by two girls. One plays the princess or milkmaid or whatever, and the other plays the prince. Then the leading male character's mother is always played by a large man, what we call the 'pantomime dame.' This idea permeates so deep it doesn't have any sexual connotation. We (English) don't think of men wearing women's clothing as having to do with homosexuality or even transvestism for that matter. It's quite different over here."

In watching the old *Python* episodes Cleese finds "a couple of funny things in each show, but there's far more dross than I remembered." He feels the first two seasons were the best. "After that we got better at packaging—at carrying a theme through an entire show and making transitions between sketches—but we repeated ourselves too much, kept doing the same things over and over." (Any *Python* fan will tell you that's more of his modesty coming through.)

The *Monty Python* team was perhaps history's best example of democracy in action, with everyone having an equal say. "If anyone had tried to dominate," Cleese says, "I don't think it would have gone over well with the others." Among their unwritten laws, he recalls, "You didn't talk about anything you did outside of the group."

He can't recall any disputes over who would play which part in a sketch. "If you remember we were all writers, everything else would fall into place," he explains.

As for the gay slang meaning of his new film's title, Cleese says, "I did know that and I had totally forgotten it. Graham told me a few years ago, but I'd forgotten until it came up in an interview a couple of weeks ago. I like that, though. It makes it more clever, don't you think?"

He adds that he hopes "fish" isn't too derogatory a reference to women, but goes on to discuss derogatory terms and his derogatory opinion of people who take them too seriously when they're used in fun. ("Literal minds miss the point of things which take place in a much wider context than they're aware of.") Cleese is partial to "pouf" as a slang term for gays. He means no harm but likes the sound of it, as he does



John Cleese bares nearly all in *A Fish Called Wanda*.

(Photo: D. James)

"Frog" for a French person. He has a hangup, however, about the word "Jew." "I don't know why, but I always turn it around to say 'a Jewish person.'"

The *Pythons* have never worried about offending people—youth either appreciate their humor or you don't. Cleese was amused at a New York preview of *Wanda*, in which three innocent puppies are murdered with cartoon-like cruelty. "A little old lady came up to me afterward and said, 'I have a complaint.' I wondered what this was going to be about (the potential for offense in the film being almost limitless), and braced myself. She said, 'Why didn't you kill more dogs?' A woman after my own heart."

Cleese is modest about more

ruined. She also advised him to leave his clothes off once he had them off.

It wasn't Cleese's first nude scene. That came in 1974 in a short film he made with his first wife (and *Faulty Towers* co-star) Connie Booth. "Once you've taken your underpants off once," he says, "it's like going through an emotional sound barrier." As for the crew, "after five minutes everybody's had a look and they go on with their lives. A bit longer in Jamie's case, and about five seconds in mine."

Credit for another classic scene in *Wanda* is given to Kevin Kline, who was only a spectator on the set where Cleese, in about 90 seconds, wrecks both his legal career and his marriage because of his infatuation with Curtis. "It was Kevin who suggested between takes that I let more of my tender feelings for Jamie come through. I tried that and it worked."

Probably the world's funniest 6'5", 4934-year-old man, Cleese pronounces his name to rhyme with "sleaze." Until a generation before, his family name was Cheese. "My dad was born Reginald Francis Cheese," he says, but changed it when he went in the army because he was tired of being teased about it. "The funny thing is, my mother always pronounced it (to rhyme with lease), because her maiden name was Cross and she was used to the sibilant 's.' I always say, if your parents can't agree on how to pronounce their name they're not likely to agree on much else."

Cleese, who smokes "two or three cigarettes a day—my doctor says it's not statistically significant," says his father "smoked himself to death at 79. My mother's in her 80s and still going." Despite the tendency toward longevity in his family, he makes several references to his own mortality. For instance, "If I were in my 30s I might consider doing a sequel to *Wanda*. The four stars want to work together again, he says, but when they do it will be in—pardon the expression—something completely different."

A Fish Called Wanda shows new sides of John Cleese as an actor. "I always knew I could act," he says, "but I felt it was within narrow limits—I'm a character actor. Now I feel the limits are wider." He attributes part of this to therapy, "which opens you up and makes more emotions available to you."

Perhaps his favorite review of the film came from Sheila Benson in the Los Angeles Times. "She called me 'a thing of beauty,'" he gloats. "I want to put that on my gravestone: John Cleese, 1939-2017, 'A Thing of Beauty.'"

'The Blob' — The Virus From Outer Space

by Steve Warren

Your most paranoid theories about the origin of the AIDS epidemic come to vivid life in Chuck Russell's remake of *The Blob*. The word "AIDS" isn't used (nor is the word "blob"), but it's as clearly the central metaphor as communism was in the 1958 version of this story about a creeping red menace threatening a small town that represents the best/worst of Eisenhower-Reagan American values. (A mother says, "You're home now. You're safe. That's all that matters.")

While the idea of a deadly, unknown, unstoppable organism from which no one is safe is enough to suggest AIDS to almost anyone these days, the more specific (but non-gay) connections and the explanation of the virus' mutation into an amorphous, growing mass of gooshy slime are revealed late in the film. You may want to see it before reading further, as I'm going to reveal more of the plot than I ordinarily would. (I'll still leave the final and perhaps most damning twist for a surprise.)

The setting is the Northern California ski resort of "Arborville" one October, before the snow. (Because it is shot in mid-winter, Hollywood logic selected Abbeville, Louisiana, as the location.) Things are pretty slow in



Kevin Dillon as Brian Flagg in *The Blob*.

town, and the people have nothing to think about but sex and football.

This new *Blob* borrows from, refers to, and deviates from the original; so even if you're familiar with that low-rent classic, you never know which way this version will go.

Kevin Dillon, still young enough to be cute in a rough-trade sort of way,

is the town delinquent (Arborville's not big enough to have a town queer), a tough-acting kid with a heart of mush. He wears a leather jacket in 70-degree weather and rides a motorcycle. Rather than imitate Steve McQueen's character, Dillon plays it—rather well—as an updated James Dean.

Leading lady Shawnee Smith, less attractive than the usual

movie cheerleader, goes out with football hero Donovan Leitch. That's the night the ooze comes down from space and attaches itself to an old man who pokes at it with a stick. It absorbs him, getting bigger in the process, and goes to work on the rest of Arborville. Smith changes partners, for reasons obvious and otherwise, and she and Dillon try to save the town.

They run up against a team of government biologists in decontamination suits, led by Joe Seneca. "A meteor fell to Earth bearing alien bacteria," they explain, but later Dillon overhears them admitting the "killer germ" came from a U.S. satellite carrying a biological warfare experiment that must have mutated in space. And who among us has never suspected our tax dollars paid for the development of the AIDS virus? Like the similarly garbed villains in *E.T.*, the government men become as menacing as the blob itself.

When you mess with 1950s classics, you'd better have something to add in exchange for what you're losing. *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* made it on style and scope, while *The Fly* had humor and a touching love story. *The Thing* had nothing but state-of-the-art gross-out special effects. *The Blob* adds up-to-the-minute topicality without losing its innocent, tongue-in-cheek charm.

Slither, don't run, to see it. ●

★ ★ ½
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The Golden Gate Men's Chorus, formerly the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale, is proud to announce its summer concert, "Glee Club," a festive array of traditional English, American, and college glee club music, under its new director, Steve Repasky.

Bolstered by many new members, the chorus will be utilizing the traditional four-part harmonies of glee clubs to create a powerful and melodious sound. Featured composers will be William Byrd, Aaron Copland, and Samuel Wesley.

Steve Repasky is currently the organist and choral director for St. Patrick's Church in San Francisco. Prior to that, he was the organist for the (old) St. Mary's

Church. He is also currently the reference librarian at the University of California-Berkeley's music library.

The concert will be performed four times: on Aug. 13 at 8 p.m. at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St., S.F.; Aug. 14 at 4 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; Aug. 20 at 8 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., S.F.; and Aug. 21 at 2 p.m. at Star of the Sea Church, 4420 Geary Blvd. at 8th Avenue, S.F.

Tickets are \$6 in advance, \$9 at the door. They can be purchased at Headlines; by phone, 584-9805; or by mail, Golden Gate Men's Chorus, 227 Congo St., San Francisco, CA 94131. ●

MCC Premieres Symmetricon At 'Mandalas and Music' August 13

"Mandalas and Music," a Symmetricon premiere, is scheduled for Aug. 13, 8 p.m., at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco. Admission is \$5.

The Symmetricon, invented nearly 20 years ago by John Burnside of Los Angeles, is a unique projecting kaleidoscope. This instrument projects large, full-screen images in brilliant colors and shapes that continuously form and reform. Like the mandalas of Tibetan Buddhism, these breathtaking images are archetypes of wholeness and balance: They delight the eye and soothe the spirit.

The Symmetricon surpasses the hand-held kaleidoscope in the variety and quality of its images. Only six such instruments have been made by Mr. Burnside. The most recent model will be demonstrated at "Mandalas and Music." The one-hour show will be accompanied by musical selections.

"Mandalas and Music" will benefit Vortex media, which since 1980 has published material on art, spirituality, and politics as they relate to explorations in gay consciousness. Vortex publications will be on sale at the performance. ●

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CTA GRAPHICS

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Stern Grove's Midsummer Dancing Debuts

The San Francisco Ballet's performance at Stern Grove is one annual free concert given locally by a major dance company, and it is typically the final glimpse of classical dancing to be had anywhere in the Bay Area until the Oakland Ballet begins its fall season in September. This season's Stern Grove casting included a record number of debuts, some planned and some due to injuries.

Artistic Director Helgi Tomasson's *Giuliani: Variations on a Theme* was the program's bland opener, a mildly unpleasant essay in neoclassicism that is inexplicably being repeated next season, despite its universally cool reception. New lead dancers Alaina Albertson and Andre Reyes—an odd couple—each plied their considerable talents. But these roles are unalterably stylized, like an unflattering garment that not even a great beauty can model successfully. Elizabeth Loscavo, a last minute replacement for Shannon Lilly, made a dazzling appearance in the ballet's brief demi-solo, a butterfly passing before drab wallpaper.

Mikko Nissinen's indisposition led to a heroic effort by Andre Reyes, dancing with Ludmila Lopukhova in the *Le Corsaire* pas

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de deux, prepared quickly the day before and executed with admirable cooperation and aplomb. Both Lopukhova and Reyes excel in this showpiece, though they would probably never have appeared in it together except in this kind of emergency.

Van Caniparoli's *Hamlet and Ophelia* pas de deux was revived with a brilliant new cast, Wendy Van Dyck and Christopher Boatwright, each vividly dramatic and so elegant a couple that I now long to see them together in other ballets. More than any other piece on the program, this pas de deux needed the accoutrements of a real proscenium

stage, but its effectiveness withstood the outdoor setting.

Alexander Topciy, who usually partners Evelyn Cisneros in Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*, was replaced by Anthony Randazzo, with whom Cisneros has performed the ballet once in the past. Randazzo's solos looked a bit like a dive into cold water, but he supported Cisneros with the easy responsibility we've come to expect from him.

Theme and Variations revealed a partial reconstituted corps de ballet, mainly the result of the departure of seven male dancers after the close of last season, an

extraordinary exodus for any ballet company to sustain. The defectors included one principal dancer, Simon Dow, and some valuable members of the corps de ballet.

Tomasson is apparently having a hard time finding replacements, as evidenced by a recruitment ad in the back pages of this month's *Dancemagazine*, seeking male dancers who have performed leading roles in a major dance company for more than two years, with "evidence of critical acclaim." I'd be surprised if such an appeal proved effective, since male dancers of that calibre usually have to be lured into a new situation. (I'd love to have heard the promises Boston Ballet made to Simon Dow). And, if they're straight, their girlfriends usually have to be hired as well. (In a few cases, dancer boyfriends have also been hired, but male dancers in the same ballet company infrequently become lovers, surprising as that may seem, and their unions aren't officially indulged to the extent that heterosexual couples are—which isn't such a surprise, is it?)

The new male dancers Tomasson has hired so far comprise an interesting and attractive group.

The youngest, Max Fuqua, is a coltish blond fresh out of the School of American Ballet in New York, where his stormy student career was extensively chronicled by journalist Daphne Hurford in her recent book, *The Right Moves* (available in local bookstores, for the severe chronic balletomanes among you). Robert Gerstner, voluptuously handsome, hails from Missouri, having recently spent time in the circuit of New York's private ballet studios. Antonio Castilla, a Spaniard of great refinement, appears to be a formidable technician whom I would expect to see promoted at least to the rank of soloist within the year. (Are there more where he came from?) Two promising new apprentices appearing in *Theme and Variations*, and one 1988 apprentice, Edward Ellison, was given a corps contract.

The numbers alone tell us there will be more new faces to come. A South American or another European? A Russian expatriate, perhaps? Or will another United States company suddenly be recasting half of its repertory this fall because their valued soloist came to us? By the time *Nutcracker* opens, we'll know.

MUSIC

The Official 100th Birthday

Too Much Talk, Not Enough Action

by David Perry

Integration. Webster's New World Dictionary defines it like this: "the organization of various traits, feelings, attitudes, etc., into one harmonious personality." In the case of *The Official 100th Birthday Party—A Salute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and the Best of Berlin*, currently at the Plush Room, directors F. Allen Sawyer and John F. Karr could stand to pin that on their staging books. There is nothing close to "one harmonious personality" about this birthday salute. Lots of harmonies and lots of personalities battle each other for close to two hours without ever giving birth to one unified show. This "party" is about as integrated as Selma, Alabama, circa 1963.

With a rave from Chronicle critic Gerald Nachman to back them up, Sawyer and Karr have remounted the Irving Berlin tribute which played the Plush Room this past May. The result is a rickety construction of talented parts, with no thematic bolts to hold them together. John Karr sits onstage and natters on and on about Berlin's place in American music and even manages to croak out a song himself.

Please, please, please. John Karr is certainly one of this town's most respected and likable personalities. A font of trivia and info, Karr can hold friends and colleagues rapt as he rattles off encyclopedic knowledge about the American musical theater. However, Plush Room audiences are not always made up of director's friends and colleagues. The Plush Room is not a living room cocktail party, and cabaret performance is not a glorified excuse for a history lesson.

Plus, I was not the only one holding my ears against the annoying and explosive pronunciation Karr employs. Every "p" word was like a small acoustic bombshell. In all his years in theater, how has Karr managed not to learn the proper method of talking into a mike?

If Sawyer and Karr insist on adding spoken biographical data to this revue, at least put it in the mouths of the performers. They are the only people who should be onstage anyway. God knows the interminable lag between some of the musical numbers would give them adequate time to read some of that noxious copy. Let the singers sing!

When they are allowed adequate exposure, the singers do a noble job. At the top of the list are the Jesters (James Campbell, pianist-arranger Scumbly Koldewyn and A.C. Griffing), a male vocal trio with harmonies as tight as stretched cellophane. Berlin's pace and lyrics seem reborn in their vocal chords. They get five numbers out of the show's 33, and should have handled more.

Darlene Popovic was in fine form, although the usually hilarious "Can You Use Any Money Today" from *Call Me Madame* was not served well by the embarrassing foray into the audience with fake currency being thrown around. Her "Sadie Salome," which kept her onstage and reliant upon her own considerable interpretive skills, fared better. Richel Etterman, as sexy a kitten as any about, is a genuine crowd pleaser, but a great many of her songs are pitched uncomfortably—for her voice and our ears. Samm Gray,

clearly the featured and favorite performer, is a genuine talent. However, those talents are better showcased by songs which don't require him to do a quasi Josephine Baker impersonation.

Irving Berlin deserves better. To dust off the more obscure of Berlin's prolific creations is a commendable act. All of these songs should be heard. Can't we find someone who knows how to put them together, without a lot of talk, in a coherent and well-edited fashion? The whole affair seems produced on a shoe string, an "oh gosh, aren't these songs great" kind of feel. It doesn't cut it.

There's much too much going on up there, and very little of it having to do with what comes before or after. For a while, the fact that almost all the music is Irving Berlin's gives one hope. But even that is dashed by "Team Up With Me," a ludicrous attempt at Berlinesque stylings by Tom Judson. And, at a venerable 100 years old, Irving Berlin will be a happier man if he never hears "Blue Skies" subjected to the *Godspell* rock ending this show gives us. What's the point?

There's not enough cabaret in San Francisco, so to see so much good material and talent wasted is painful. This overwordy excuse is more like a lecture on the history of musical theatre. For that, you book Mission High School, not the Plush Room.

★ 1/2
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THE ENDURANCE
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Tommy Pace

Oct. 9, 1948–Aug. 1, 1988



Tommy Pace, a San Francisco stage and film performer for 15 years, died Monday, Aug. 1, after a four-year struggle with AIDS.

A native of San Jose, Tommy, 39, was a well-loved and brilliantly funny figure on the gay and alternative theater circuit. He worked with the Angels of Light and Gay Men's Theater Collective, created a variety of characters, and was known for his uncanny impersonations of such pop figures as Imelda Marcos, Richard Burton, Bette Davis, Billie Holiday, and Ricky Ricardo.

Last month, several of Tommy's friends in the performing community staged "Gimme Da Damn Money," a benefit celebration to defray his medical and living expenses. Presented at Theater Artaud, the comedy/music revue not only succeeded as a gesture of tender friendship and commitment, but netted more than \$4,000.

In 1977, Tommy joined the Gay Men's Theater Collective and became one of the nine original actors in *Crimes Against Nature*. Written by its cast members, *Crimes* was an innovative play with dance in which each man performed an autobiographical vignette based on his method of survival in a homophobic society. In Tommy's case it was clear: "I survived by being funny."

The winner of a Bay Area Theater Critics Circle award, *Crimes* played on local stages for a year before going to New York and Toronto. Tommy is the fifth *Crimes* cast member to die of AIDS, following Chuck Solomon, Howard Solomon, Timo Butters, and Greg Kolenborn.

Later, Tommy joined the Angels of Light, a theater troupe that originated as an offshoot of the gender-bending Cockettes. In 1979-80, when the Angels staged *Holy Cow!*, their multi-award-winning Indian extravaganza, Tommy got the biggest laughs for his role as Kamala's Mother, an excessively worrisome Hindu woman.

Tommy appeared in several off-beat, San Francisco-made films. He was the Wicked Witch of the West in Marc Huestis' *Basket Case*, a deranged Catholic schoolgirl in David Weissman's *Beauties Without a Cause*, and a variety of lunatics in Huestis' *Whatever Happened to Susan Jane?*

At Club 181, a Tenderloin cabaret, Tommy appeared in "Nightclub of the Living Dead" and "The Fish/Ford Happy Hour," and was also a regular in *Naked Brunch*, a three-part Beatnik soap opera spoof.

"Tommy was radiant on stage," said Huestis, a frequent collaborator. "He often said how he would channel his characters. He came at them from a real spiritual approach: he'd say 'Well it wasn't be, it was Billie Holliday,'

or whatever. He had that greatness on stage that's completely spontaneous and not thought out."

Tommy was born Oct. 9, 1948. He graduated in 1966 from Lincoln High School in San Jose, and attended San Jose City College and San Francisco State.

A memorial service was held last Thursday in San Jose. Tommy is survived by his father and mother, Tom and Ilene Pace of San Jose; his sister, Sally van Kaathoven of Santa Cruz; his brother-in-law; two nieces and two nephews.

Philip Campbell

A Pair of Golden Oldies

Two legendary show business troupers, Pearl Bailey and Victor Borge, graced the stage of Civic Auditorium on separate nights of this year's Symphony POPS season, proving that talent knows no age limit and that familiarity breeds affection, not contempt.

Neither artist brought much in the way of surprises or fresh material, but the sheer pleasure of their company was enough to remove the chill from a cool San Francisco night. Some acts only improve with age, and, surprisingly enough, these two seemingly opposite personalities have a lot in common. They both would certainly rather kibitz with the fans than settle down and perform a number straight.

At 70, Pearl Bailey looks and sounds terrific. Some of the fluid vocal phrasing has coarsened with the years, but the magical hula hand movements and stunning eyes can still sell a ballad like "Something Wonderful" with bittersweet intensity, and the trademark strut turns such

tired standards as "Bill Bailey" and "Hello, Dolly" into joyous, life-affirming cakewalks.

The first-half warmup for La Bailey's full concert appearance was happily led by conductor John Dankworth, husband of Cleo Laine and virtuoso instrumentalist in his own right. With members of the San Francisco Symphony, he entertained us with big band jazz by the likes of Duke Ellington and Eddie Sauter, while patrons dined at the festive picnic tables and thousands crammed the balconies for one of the last big entertainment bargains in the city.

We were primed for the grand entrance, and "Pearlie Mae" did not disappoint. Her salty ad libs and corny lapses into sentimentality turned the cavernous arena into an intimate, uptown club for a full hour of music and laughter. Some of the material was so-so, especially a dreadful set of lyrics Scotch-taped to the theme from *Superman*, but Bailey rose above the mediocrity and somehow made it sound sincere.

She wanted to be a schoolteacher once, though fate and success luckily intervened. What a positive teacher she turned out to be anyway. Now she fascinates millions.

Husband and musical director Louis Bellson played a phenomenal drum solo during a brief instrumental break, and while I'm usually immune to such displays, I must admit it was exciting and thoroughly musical. In a world gone mad with programmed drugs and overmiked and overhyped vocalists, Pearl Bailey and Louis Bellson provided a precious one-night reminder of what honest entertainment can be.

Everybody's favorite uncle, Victor Borge also returned us to a simpler, more decent form of comedy and music during what is fast becoming an annual visit. Like Christmas and the Fourth of July, the celebration is basically unchanging, but the pleasure of the tradition never dulls. Borge says Lyndon Johnson invited him to the White

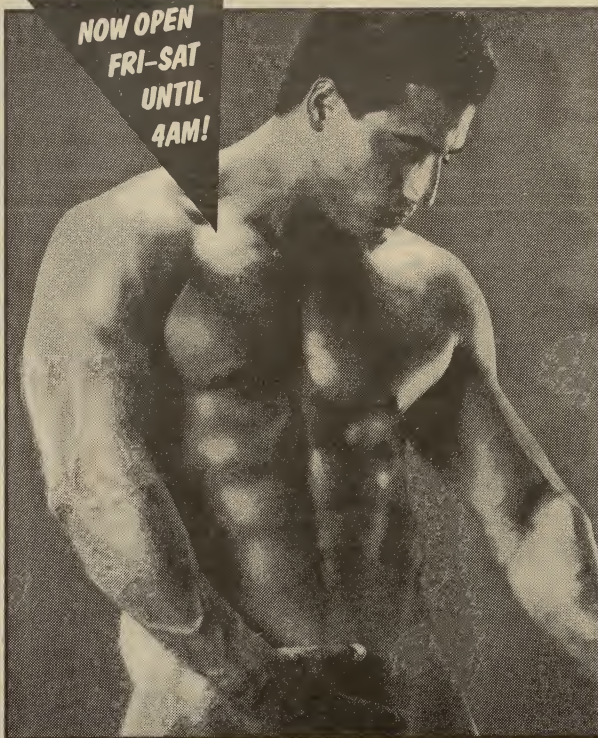
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Ocean, Thou Mighty Monster

As most people know, the field of opera is strewn with enormous egos. Whether such egos belong to impresarios, singers, directors, conductors, donors or volunteers, it takes a huge amount of energy to bring them into line. Mere dominance is not enough to accomplish the task and few, if any forces seem capable of the job. Except, perhaps, the ocean. Why the ocean? Because it's bigger than any operatic talent, infinitely more powerful and can swallow up a person in no time at all.

With that kind of dramatic impact at their disposal, it's no wonder that oceanic storm scenes (with their dread majesty) have inspired composers to create some absolutely fabulous music. The opening moments of Verdi's *Otello*, the appearance of the ghost ship in Wagner's *Die Fliegende Holländer*—even Madame D'Urfe's crazed encounter with Mother Nature during Act II of Argento's *Casanova*—capture an eerie and threatening style of oceanic violence which could easily intimidate common mortals.

Operatic characters, however, are rarely common souls and thus, if sopranos and tenors are willing to tackle a force as mighty as the ocean it is, no doubt, because they know that such a confrontation will hold an audience spellbound until the storm subsides. I recently had the intense pleasure of watching two skilled American artists battle the sea in magnificently staged solo arias which handsomely highlighted



As Rezia, soprano Nova Thomas scored a major triumph in Carl Maria von Weber's *Oberon* at the Opera Theatre of St. Louis.

their dramatic talents. I'm happy to report that, on both occasions, the ocean got a pretty tough run for its money.

One doesn't encounter too many productions of Carl Maria von Weber's *Oberon*, "a romantic and fairy opera" subtitled

The Elf King's Oath. Although its plot revolves around the seething jealousies between the Fairy King (Oberon) and his domineering Queen (Titania), the opera focuses on a much different lovers' quarrel than the one made famous in Shakes-

peare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In Weber's opera, Titania has accused men of being the instigators of all infidelity. Oberon has countered by refusing to darken his wife's bed until he finds a pair of lovers who will be constant to each other through trials of flood, chains and fire.

The clumsiness of *Oberon's* libretto—which transports characters from Fairyland to Tunis and then stops to dally with some mermaids before winding up in the court of Charlemagne—could test the limits of any ordinary stage director. However, Colin Graham (who crafted the new performing version unveiled by Opera Theatre of St. Louis in June) is no ordinary director. Graham knows how to get the most from his performers and, in addition to using every directorial trick in the book to keep *Oberon* moving along its phantasmagorical way, he inspired OTSL's chorus to sing, dance and—with some help from Movement Director David MacMurray Smith—flutter its way across the stage of the Loretto-Hilton Theatre. That's easier said than done.

The result was a masterpiece of directorial deception; a triumph of stagecraft that made a mediocre opera (a friend describes *Oberon* as grandly pretentious Gilbert & Sullivan) look and sound much stronger than it is. In those moments when the audience was not being dazzled by Emanuele Luzzati's colorful sets and magnificent costumes, Graham's large cast of principals worked their magic from every angle of OTSL's thrust stage. As Titania/Roxana, actress Caroline McGee was a fearsome presence; her dramatic strength matched only by the winsome appeal of Cheryl Majercik's impishly energetic Puck. Along with Graham's reworking of the original libretto, conductor John Nelson's musical edition frequently had tenors Michael Myers (Sir Huon of Bordeaux) and Allan Glassman (Oberon) yielding the spotlight to baritone James Michael McGuire's swaggering Sherasmin and Melanie Sonnenberg's comedic Fatima.

While Graham created a great deal of stage business to keep the audience diverted, when it came time for Rezia's big aria ("Ocean, Thy Mighty Monster") all peripheral action ground to a halt as soprano Nova Thomas was brought to center stage for her dramatic plum of a concert aria. Singers spend a lifetime hoping to have such arias, like magnificent jewels, framed in perfect settings and this was one of those rare occasions when all the elements of opera/music theatre came together in blazing glory. Thomas' fascinatingly rich and luscious voice conquered the music—as well as Oberon's mighty ocean—with a grand sense of style. This talented soprano is scheduled to sing Adalgisa opposite Joan Suther-

land's Norma (in Orange County and Detroit) next year before tackling Verdi's Leonora and Donizetti's Anna Bolena in Seattle. Keep your eyes and ears tuned to her career. It promises to be exciting.

SINKING INTO OBLIVION

For many years, Jon Vickers has practically owned the role of Peter Grimes. Earlier this year, when the continued illness of tenor Jose Carreras forced the Royal Opera to substitute a revival of Benjamin Britten's *Peter Grimes* for Giordano's *Andrea Chenier*, Vickers consented to star in all but the first two performances of this highly theatrical music drama. I was lucky enough to catch one of the performances during which an extremely gifted American tenor, Jacque Trussel, essayed the title role after having just scored a major career triumph with his interpretation of Britten's ill-fated fisherman at the Maggio Musicale in Florence.

Trussel looks like a much more ordinary soul than Vickers' fierce, almost Neanderthal, characterization of Grimes. Caught in a web of small-town gossip and bad luck at sea, his determination to clear the record, reestablish his credibility in the community and marry Ellen Orford becomes a powerful obsession. By the time Trussel comes ashore in the fog-bound third act, completely mad, one can only feel pity for the innocence of Grimes and the cruelty with which the residents of the borough have taken the wind from his sails.

If the American tenor scored a triumph in the title role, he received an extra-special measure of dramatic strength from Josephine Barstow's portrayal of the schoolmistress, Ellen Orford. A phenomenal performer under any circumstances, Barstow is one of the few sopranos in the business who, while internalizing a character's thoughts and emotions, can do a superb job of communicating her silent suffering to an audience.

This revival of Elijah Moshinsky's production of *Peter Grimes* (designed with startling effectiveness by Timothy O'Brien and Tazeena Firth) was lovingly conducted by John Barker. Victor Braun's Balstrode, Peter Savidge's Ned Keene, Eric Garrett's Swallow and Alexander Oliver's Rector contributed strong cameos to the proceedings. They were matched by Elizabeth Bainbridge's robust Auntie, Patricia Johnson's meddling Mrs. Sedley and Keith Johnston's scared silence as Grimes' apprentice, John. Special credit goes to the Royal Opera's chorus, under Robin Stapleton, for their crucial work in this production—a superb evening of opera which roundly demonstrated how effective this art form can be when taken seriously as musical theatre. ●



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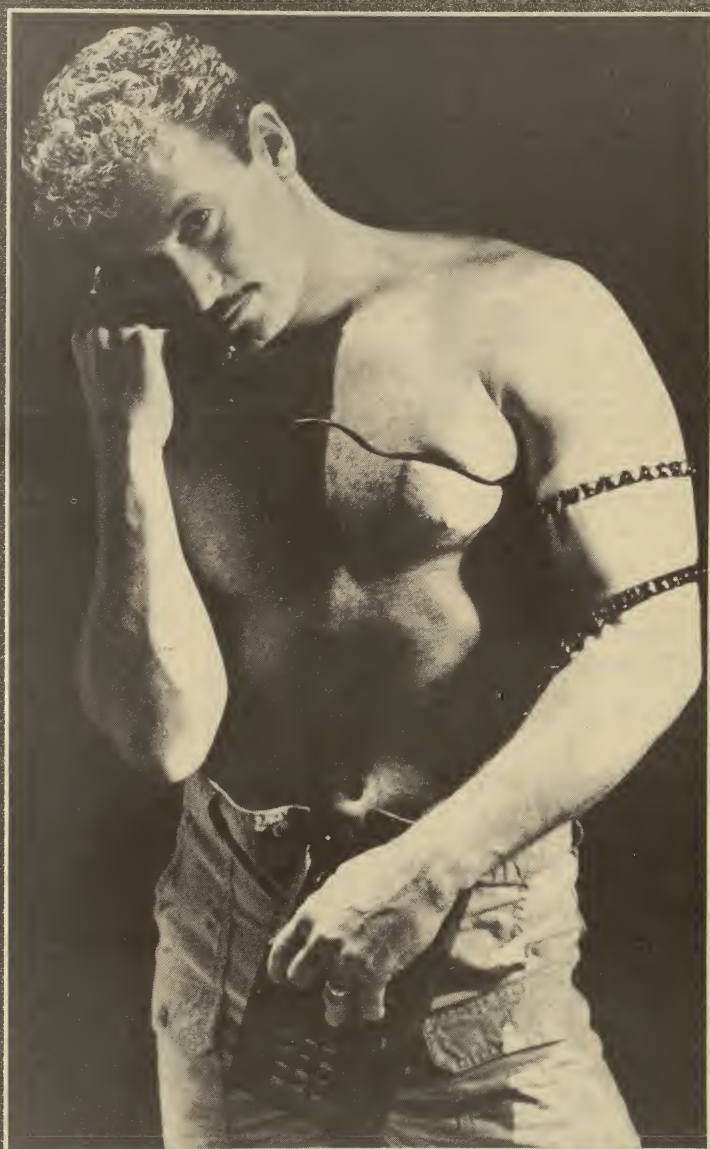
HOT Bodies

On Sunday, Aug. 21, "Hot Bodies" takes place at the Woods Resort in Guerneville. "Hot Bodies" consists of men's and women's erotic boxing, wrestling, karate, and bodybuilding exhibitions, with special guest Chris Burns. Hostess and emcee for "Hot Bodies" is Mistress Kathy.

The show begins at 2 p.m. at the Woods Patio and Pool area, located at 16881 Armstrong Woods Rd. Admission is \$5, which includes use of the pool.

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Hot Times: Summer in the City

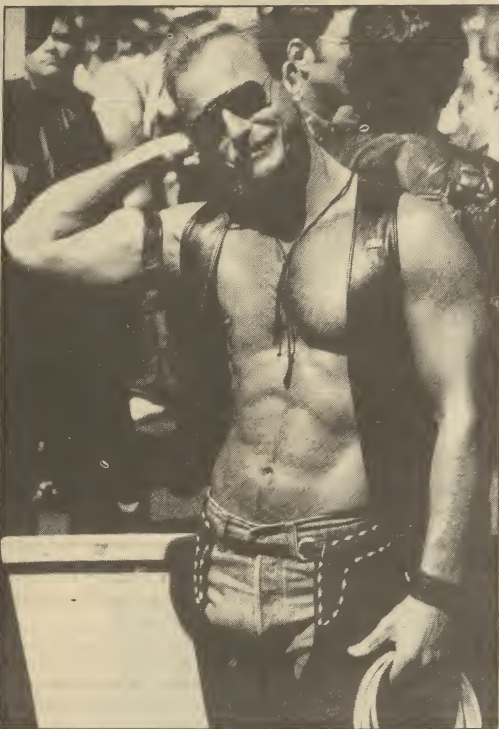
While the rest of the nation is sweltering in 100° plus temperatures, we've been lucky to have some of the best. This phenomenon so early in the year has helped make a lot of the community's functions successful.

Last Sunday, thousands turned out for the annual Up Your Alley street fair (on Dore Alley and Folsom this year). It was exactly what you'd expect, too. Lots of bare skin, lots of leather, lots of booze and games, and loads of entertainment.

Mr. Leather of SF Stephen Mistler had his hands full keeping the five hours of nonstop entertainment on schedule, but he succeeded with aplomb as City Swing with Gail Wilson blasted out all over the Miracle Mile. Ms. Terry Foster, Marga Gomez, and Renee Hicks, to mention only a few, kept the Folsom stage jumping all afternoon. At the last minute, gambling permits were denied, and consequently the portion of Dore Alley that runs next to the Powerhouse was abandoned. But that didn't hamper anyone from having a ball.

I really didn't know dowager Sissy Spaceout was of Latin descent—she made all the burritos the night before, and sales were brisk at all the food and beverage booths. Men Behind Bars' margarita booth was one of the hit surprises of the day; David Sarathain and Pete Pettine came out of their South of the City cocoon to slosh beer; the Golden Gate Guards (no longer the Imperial Guards) made their mark on everyone with their tattoo booth, which proved popular.

But the main action was on the stage. Good golly, Gail Wilson gets better and better with each outing! The arrangements were superb, and the selection of music by City Swing and their sassy brass section were flawless! The fair was a benefit for some three charities, and the whole affair deserves at least a 9 on the scale!



The ring toss at the Dore Alley Fair.

(Photo: Scott Martin)

The action last week started on Thursday when the Blazing Redheads did their second gig at the Great American Music Hall. There was another big turnout for this great group. In spite of what the "establishment" critics wrote in reviews, the BR's are going places, and besides, who cares what the critics say? God knows they've been wrong before.

Image Leather on Upper Market kicked off their 6th Anniversary last week, too; bargains galore await all you leather mavens. To make the occasion even brighter, Male Image, the

men's hair salon right next door, is celebrating their 10th Anniversary. Image Leather's celebration runs through Sunday, Aug. 21, so now's the time to get some good bargains in leather and other necessary accoutrements. Hi Renaldo!

Lots of people are heading hither and yon on vacations. I've been deluged with post cards from Sri Lanka to Key West and I do appreciate you all thinking of me, but it would be nice if you'd sign your last names. I've been getting cards signed just Joe, John, Brian, Mike, etc. etc. It's a shame I don't know who they're from!



The crowd at the Dore Alley Fair.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



Dore Alley Fair organizers Jerry and Audrey with Sup. Carol Ruth Silver. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Anthony Bruno's smash hit, *Soul Survivor*, reopens tonight in the Los Angeles Shepard Theatre Complex. The witty and timely production closed down in March while the theater was being renovated. But it's all spit and polish now at 6476 Santa Monica Blvd., and tonight's reopening gala promises to be another standing-room-only run. If you find yourself in the City of the Angels, call Theatix at (213) 466-1767 and just maybe you'll be able to get a ducat. If not, you'll just have to wait until this important theater event opens here at Theatre Rhino.

Tourists, tourists. Doug Kopecky, a hot leatherman and former hot bartender at the Castro Station, makes his home in Sacramento now but was in town last weekend celebrating his 22-year retirement from the U.S. Naval Reserve. Doug is affiliated with the court of Empress La Kish, formerly of this town, and will play an important role in the Mr. Leather of Sacramento contest, coming soon to send a Sacramento to IML in Chicago next May.

Well, the Eagle's 1989 calendar is almost ready to go into production. Hot photographer Scott Martin will photograph the 13 winners. (There was a tie for Mr. December). Scott's magnificent photo/art show is on the walls at My Place right now, so don't miss it. I've heard nothing but good things about this one.

Anyway, tonight, Aug. 11, the 13 monthly winners will compete in one more event connected to the calendar. They'll be vying for the cover of the 1989 edition, so get on down for the fun tonight at the Eagle, starting around 10-ish.

Inter Club Fund is having a garage sale Saturday, Aug. 13, from 0900 to 1500 at 3827 18th Street; you'll find some good bargains at this one, so check it out.

The musical tribute to Tin Pan Alley, Broadway and the Best of Berlin, continues at the Plush Room with Darlene Popovic, Samm Gray, and a host of other talented entertainers through Aug. 21. F. Allen Sawyer and John Karr are directing, and all this time I thought John was only interested in the SF Jacks! Try to catch this one!

Saturday night will be busy all over the bay. Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights are throwing a snazzy casino night for the Contra Costa AIDS Task Force, from 1900-2400. The ducats are

only \$75, which includes everything, including entertainment by Tongue In Cheek. Call 558-9353 for tickets/info or



Friends ending the party at the Dore Alley Fair. (Photo: Scott Martin)

646-2525. Saturday night (Aug. 13) it's the Miss California Continental Beauty Pageant at the California

Club. It's an official prelim for the Miss Continental USA Pageant. Jim "Felicia" Flint, owner of Chicago's famed Baton club,

will MC, and the entertainment will star Miss California Continental Vanessa Santoni and (Continued on next page)

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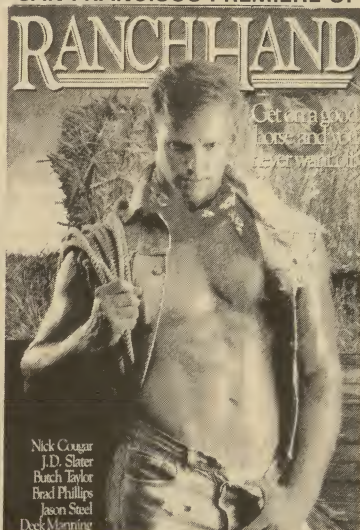
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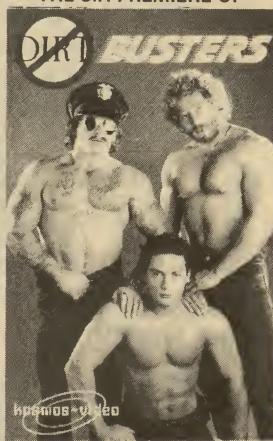
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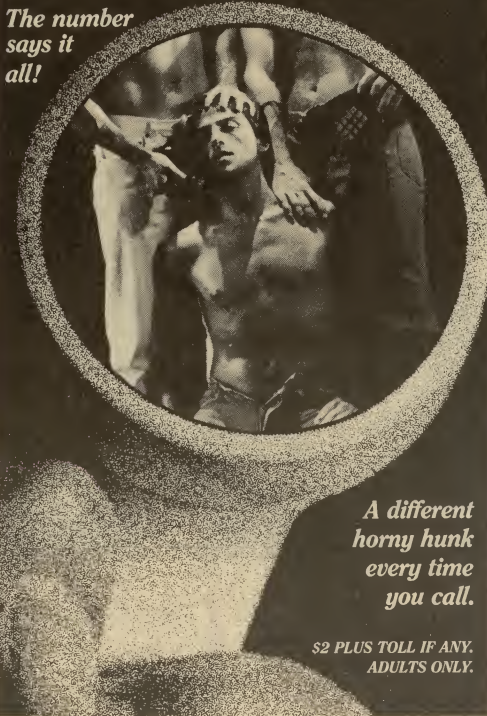


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The pie-throwing booth was popular at the Dore Alley Fair.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Miss Continental USA Dana Douglas. The doors open at 1800, show is at 1900, and the tickets range from \$15 to \$20. Call Cory Productions for tickets at 928-5988.

Monday night, Aug. 15, the S.F. Jacks (See The Thing Itself) will host their party. With the usual spurting and pumping, it's called "Title Night." They'll name the "Boner King," Mr. Leather Boot of Northern Calif., and Miss Gay Thailand. All will be anointed (one way or another) and this one sounds like fun. The SF

Jacks want you all to know that August is World Jack Off Month (I thought it was in April, didn't you Hal Call?). There will be mud wrestling and cat fights at this one, and it's nice to know you can throw in all that humor while getting your rocks off. John Karr, you're too, too much!

Speaking of J/O, the funniest thing I've heard is some real dizzy queens are dumb enough to put their Penis Pumps in the dish washer, rendering the poor thing absolutely useless! At \$89.95 a pop, it's no laughing matter, yet I've heard of several people getting their little toys absolutely ruined. A simple soap and water solution should do the job, but the dishwasher?! Puhleeze!

Sunday, the SF GDI's are having their annual Mid-Summer Beer Bust and bike event, a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Sign-in at the Watering Hole at 1000 in the morning for the bike and people events; the beer bust is at the Eagle from 1500 to 1800 for only \$7. The Inter Club Fund beer bust last Sunday was a wall-to-wall beer marathon, with some great entertainment too.

August 15 is the deadline for the poster competition for Intl. Ms Leather. Call Sky at 863-1386 for details.

The Constantines of the Bay Area will present their summer weekend run Aug. 19-20. The theme this year is Babes in Toyland. At this point in time, the fee is \$80 if postmarked by Aug. 16. It's \$90 at the gate, and cash only, please. Send your app. to P.O. Box 4964, SF 94101-4964. You should check out those "Connie" hot dogs the club sells in the Eagle patio on Friday and Saturday nights. Talk about big weenies! Needless to say, Kyle Bingham picked them out!

That hot play at the Theatre Rhino, *Jerker*, will do a benefit for the director, Joe Cappetta, on Sunday, Aug. 21. It's the final performance, so if you haven't seen it yet, don't miss it!

Tattoo Night is coming to the Eagle on Aug. 19 (a Friday). There's going to be a parade of the Tattoo hunks; a movie on tattooing and Robert Roberson will do a demo.

The SF Bondage Club is Saturday, Aug. 20, from 2100 to 0200 Sunday.

MCC Church comes out to leather. Beginning next Monday, 15 Aug., and every other Monday (next is Aug. 29), their new Leathermen's S&M Bondage Support Group meets to discuss and instruct all areas of leather life. The list of subjects to be covered at this gathering twice a month is a lengthy one, so call Gordon at 621-6786 for details and scheduling. They meet from 1930 to 2200, and it can be very enlightening, whether you're into leather or just thinking about

getting into it. Check it out! It all takes place at 160 Eureka St.

Arf! The 1st Annual Bow Wow Beauty Pageant is at the Castro Sunday, 28 Aug., at 1900 hours. Sylvester, Ruth Brinker, Dick Ferris, and Tim Curry will judge competition in Stupid Pet Tricks and Best Doggie/Owner Coordinated Evening Wear, to name just a few of the categories. It's a benefit for PAWS, and tickets range from \$15 to \$50, available at Headlines, G.W. Finley, All American Boy, and N.Y. Man. Call 647-0419 for more details, or to enter your canine friend.

You'd think I issued an invitation to the cruisy areas in GG Park last week when I warned about the cops arresting park queens around the windmills. Last weekend it was crowded as hell. Even the guy with the frisbees who never plays frisbee was there (he uses them for knee pads) after a two-week hiatus. And it got so busy at Lands End that one dude fell off a cliff and nearly broke his back! Fortunately, he fell in a thick bush, but it took him 15 minutes to extricate himself. That's what you get for being a "watch" queen!

One dude paid \$130 to have dinner with Intl. Mr. Leather Mike Pereyra at the auction during the Leather Daddy Contest and can't find the certificate for the feast. Can Alan Selby do something about this? It's bad enough losing a \$130 dinner certificate, but losing out having din-din with Iron Mike is catastrophic!

Tatiana is just proud and grateful to all of you who supported her First Saturday Night drag shows at Kimo's. Over the past months, thou\$and\$ of dollar\$ have been raised for various charities. Good show!

Jerry Downing admitted he is "just thinking" about running for Emperor, and Alan Hemming says he is "definitely not!" Time will tell.

They were guffawing all over the place when one dude got his buns tattooed at the Golden Gate Guards booth at the Dore Alley Fair last Sunday, when someone else's dog bit him right on the snake tattoo! Said the owner: "My dog hates snakes!" How rude! Why do these people insist on bringing their dogs, cats, and parrots to big gatherings? Incredibly inconsiderate to both the public and the pet(s).

Long-time Chicago Knights M/C club member Chuck "Kitty" Kiser passed away July 24 in the Windy City. Chuck made quite a few trips here to the city and was well known throughout the bike-club world. He was also a member of the Tradewinds M/C, one of the founders of the Chicago Tavern Guild, and a fundraiser for the Frank M. Rodde Memorial Fund

(Continued on page 45)

Getting Away From Smart Soirees

While smart soirees were occurring at Ginger's Too last weekend, several people had to travel as long as three hours to get the privacy they wanted. Yes, there was Pat Montclair, Chuck Demmon, Tina Tanner, Stephanie Miller, Suzie Wong, Ugly, David Carney, myself, and the entire group that had assembled for the Barbary Coasters' run, where I was elected Queen of the Dustbowl. Many things were talked about under the stars that evening, and it was wired—but not that way.

Oh, by the way, Inga/Ugly has a tangy hole and zesty thighs, which is something I don't know from experience, thank gawd!

And now it's time for the weekly Same-O section, where you get to see mention of the same people doing the same things at the same places, although I occasionally slip and do throw something different at you. The problem seems to be that even though it's a free country, there are still some bars out there that just don't want to get involved with these things, so we must be extra proud of the many bars that do and consequently take up the slack for the others.

Kimo's (active bar) presents "To San Francisco With Love" this Friday evening, with the party starting at 8:30 p.m. and the show at 9:30 p.m. It will star the talents of Suzie Wong, Poison Ivy, Big "D," Jim Head, Sophina, Nicole, Cockateilia, and Stella Mae. The emcee for this jamboree will be Inga/Ugly, and they are requesting a \$3 donation that will go to the Veterans Administration AIDS Treatment Funds.

Not that I am a food critic, nor am I vying to be one, but McDonalds can McKeep their McChicken.

Get-well wishes to Grand Duchess Lola, who was burned out of her apartment recently and had to be hospitalized for smoke inhalation.

Cha-cha, boogie 'til 2 a.m., and a few more of those old-fashioned, high-energy party values come into play when "Designing Men" invade the Giftcenter Pavilion Aug. 28. It wasn't on the flyer, so I looked it up, and that's a Saturday. The invasion is billed as "Care to Dance" for the Names Quilt and will feature the talents of these three songstresses: Angela Bofil, Magda, and High Voltage. Music will be by Michael Garrett, and the party goes from 9 p.m. 'til 2 a.m. Tickets are available at all Headlines locations (including their new store in Emeryville), and the ticket prices are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, or for \$100 there is a special cocktail party. If you want to mingle around that, you have to call 641-5653. Got it? Good!

The Mint (also an active bar) will celebrate the birthdays of Emperor Steven and Empress Lily this Saturday from 8 'til 11 p.m. The host for this event is Imperial Prince Stanley Boyd, and the hostesses are just plain Flame and Inga/Ugly. This is an event to support the court—ironically called the Court of the Shakey Quake Empire—so they say no gifts, but would you please buy lots of raffle tickets for chances on all the valuable prizes they will raffle off that evening? Also, they will have the applications available for the Mr. and Miss Tavern Guild contest at that time.

This Sunday at 5:30 p.m., you



Revelers at the Gay Asian/Pacific Association dance.

(Photo: Rink)

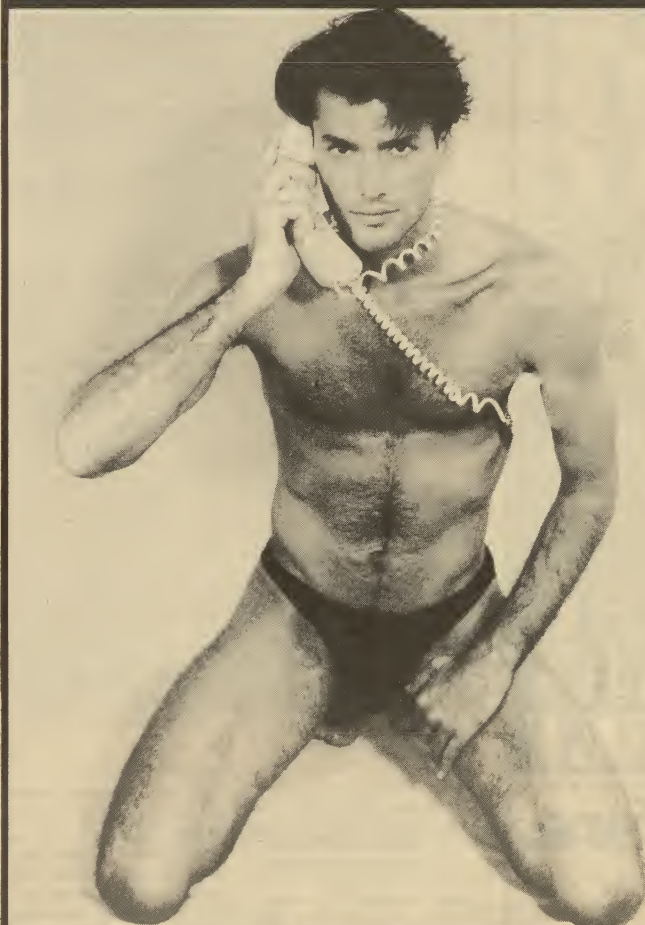
can catch the charming, talented, amusing, and, yes, attractive Scott Johnston at the Galleon, singing his little heart out. Don't miss him. I almost did once.

Hear ye, hear ye! There will be a party for all Leos and their friends at the Mint this Sunday, the 14th, with your host Emperor Chuck Demmon. The birthday party is from 7 'til 9 p.m., and by buying tickets in the 50/50 raffle, you also have a chance at many other exciting prizes. The monies made will go to Project Open Hand.

The following Tuesday will be the Tavern Guild meeting, to be held at the Ramshead on Taylor. That meeting will start at 1 p.m., and the final decision about the challenge made concerning the recent election of officers should be resolved at that time. Don't forget that the Tavern Guild Picnic is coming up on Sept. 18, which will be held at the Woods at Russian River. So far, there are buses leaving from the Mint and Mother Lode, Trax, Polk Street Rendezvous, Kokpit, Kimo's, or

(Continued on page 37)

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Kevin Gladstone: Sensitive, Shy Exhibitionist

by Glenn Davis

You know him as Kevin Gladstone. A sensitive, shy exhibitionist. A cross between Morton Downey Jr. and a gay Johnny Carson in jack boots and leather.

Kevin, while mooning friends and the public at a birthday party, refuses to get his Ohio family or his steady employers involved in his on-screen persona.

He lives alone, though he is hardly ever alone. Boys of the streets and friends flow in and out of his apartment during evenings, to the point you'd think he is holding court. Movie posters of summer fun movies decorate the walls. Robot toys flash and spit fire. A three-foot-high tower of empty pizza boxes stands icon-like on top of his refrigerator. His bed is a high loft. Huge cabinets that blank out his Haight-Divisadero windows, though not his involvement in the burgeoning club scene there, hold video and stereo equipment. Calls are constant on his always-updated phone system.

Kevin has made, been in, or created 25 films of the porno variety, beginning with *Young Stargazers*, made in 1975 at the age of 18, running through straight and bi films (though these are in the minority) up to the in-production *Sexy Billy Blue*, in which he's video and sound tech, stunt cock, and "Daddy Big Bucks"—an eccentric, rich queen.

You can catch Kevin as a regular on Channel 25's *Mr. Steve's & Wee-Wee's Playhouse* on Monday at 7 p.m., a local kids show where Kevin can just play. His part is that of Giuseppe Fandango. Contrary to popular opinion, this is not a result of court-mandated public service.

Kevin's first fame came through his association with Toby Ross, now working in New York. Toby used available light and available boys off San Francisco streets when neither drugs nor boys were haunted by political implications. Kevin often did casting. They worked out of a small storefront on Geary. This is where Kevin learned the whys and whereof of the trade. At the age of 19, he was making more money than most 19-year-olds have ever seen (pre-crack).

Toby's lyrical use of lighting and his masterly camerawork, teamed with pirated musical scores of Bryan Ferry and Roxy Music, made his pictures classics of their kind and period. They were hot sellers. *Cruisin' 57* still plays the Century Theatre on Larkin Street in San Francisco.

Kevin lights another cigarette and grabs for his wine. "When I first came to San Francisco, I knew how to type. That and photography were my only skills. And I got a job typing labels for All-American Studios during the Zebra killings. A Chinese religious fanatic lived downstairs. I became his roommate after the first night. I stayed there. He was into bondage. Toby lived directly above me.

"I was fascinated with all the smut, being a kid from Ohio. Sooner or later I got involved with production.

"It all began, really, as 'home movie fiction.' There wasn't a lot of competition. It was done mainly as sport. Nowadays it's evolved into a corporate run thing. It



Kevin Gladstone.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

used to be a thing to be ashamed of and quiet about. Now it's more show-bizzy. There weren't really stars back then—self-made stars and appearances and stripping all coordinated. They still had little black boxes over their eyes and genitals. Now people take it more seriously.

"I don't think pornography or prostitution has anything to do with love. It's a commercial exchange of visual.

"Most casting is done by word of mouth. That's how I cast *The Diary*. I just called up old flings. We knew each other, anyway. We shot it all in one day.

"I recently talked with Toby and R. Stiltskin (a local producer) about how AIDS has affected the porno market and rentals have gone up—probably because of AIDS. But people who are really into it, like me, buy two machines, so they rent and dupe the films, so the producers lose out on sales."

B.A.R.: How has the AIDS crisis affected the social fabric of the industry? How have they dealt with it?

Kevin: They ignored it for a long time and kept churning things out. Only in the last year...

B.A.R.: How do you mean, ignored?

Kevin: Safe sex.

B.A.R. They ignored safe sex until the last year?

Kevin: Generally. Now safe sex is a policy... that they have to use condoms. That used to be based on just the filmmaker or model saying he wouldn't do otherwise. Now it's a standard rule.

B.A.R.: A self-policing kind of thing.

Kevin: That's what I understand.

Luna, Kev's cat, upsets his wine, and he goes to the kitchen to pour himself another. "Now you've gotta play more games to replace the inti-

macy you once had," he throws over his shoulder, slipping into a comfortable, distant, second-person narrative. "Spanking and outfits, things like that."

B.A.R.: I noticed you've worked with Artie Bressan.

Kevin: In 1980 he had a plan to do a movie. He wanted to shoot all the sex scenes first. Artie did everything. He wasn't just a pornographer. He did porno for money and the other ones for being a filmmaker and financed them with his smut money. He was quite diverse. But he ended up having those sex scenes on his shelf, so he sold them to Toby, and I wrote a story. *Family Affair*.

A friend of Kevin's stops over to give him a card. It's one of those funny joke things. It's an official license to be a dirty old man. "R. Stiltskin calls what I do 'mature roles' now. She's a producer I work with."

Kevin: Toby has put what other people call "more effort than necessary" in his films. Not all of them. The ones he put his heart into. I'd say Toby is my favorite person to work with.

The people in porno are there because they want to be, generally. They're confident showoffs. Exhibitionists. There isn't all that much money, unless you're at the top. In *Family Affair*, all those models received \$100. They just wanted to be in a dirty movie. It's like that movie with Peter Sellers, *After the Fox*. Ripping off the gold in that small village. So he decides to make a movie about ripping off the gold in the village. He has everyone in the village steal the gold for him because they all want to be in the movie. He's filming his own crime.

B.A.R. How is safe sex handled on the set now?

Kevin: Well, in *Sexy Billy Blue*, it is an undiscussed rule among the people in the film.

B.A.R. How did it start with you? Did you notice other people using condoms?

(Continued on next page)

Gladstone

(Continued from previous page)

Kevin: Not in porno. No. I saw it here and there. I was always amazed by that. I didn't make an issue of it. I guess after you have someone you know get sick, you use condoms. Otherwise, it's a nonexistent problem. It's like foreign policy. Wars and stuff like that. After Todd died, I got more conscious of stuff like that.

B.A.R.: Did you slow down at all when AIDS awareness began?

Kevin: I never slowed down on the sex. On the set, I'd just bring out a rubber, and nobody's say anything. In this last shoot, there was a scene where a guy was fucking a guy on a pool table without a condom.

B.A.R.: The last shoot?

Kevin: Not *Sexy Billy Blue*, but the one before—I whispered to the producer, "No condoms?" She forgot. She said, "They won't take anything without condoms." It used to be up to the models. Now it's the policy.

The last bisexual film I was involved with, I was surprised that the star, who's in a lot of gay films, was fucking the woman. I was amazed she'd let him do that without protection. But I was wearing mine.

The last time I didn't wear a condom, I was fucking Kelly Nichols, who was voted the best porno actress for the Erotica Awards in 1986. But that was years ago, and we weren't thinking that way then. That was my favorite role. I played a heterosexual transvestite. It was Alex Dorenzy's *Passions*.

B.A.R.: How has AIDS affected the scene in Europe?

Kevin: In London—I shot the S&M trilogy, *Dungeons of Europe*, over there—there was safe sex because that's what S&M is primarily about now—theatrics, discipline, hot wax, stuff like that. With poppers, there weren't hardons to have unsafe sex. However, in Amsterdam it was viewed as an American problem. In the whorehouses, they made sure it was safe sex because I was an American. In the bathhouses, they wanted to have unsafe sex. It wasn't in their front yard yet.

B.A.R.: What has been the high point of your film career?

Kevin: The high point of it all was when I was 19. I was making a lot of money for being 19. And cruising for a living! I had to come up with five or six boys a month and photograph them and edit it, package for mail order, and for me that was the peak of excitement, especially being from the Midwest, coming out here in more ways than one. I was strung out on drugs. Crazy. Absolutely crazy! But there are fond memories. That was the peak, in terms of productions. Now it's a kind of hobby.

It's dwindling in terms of roles. I'm behind the camera more now. But my interest has dwindled.

B.A.R.: You don't see porno as a bridge to legitimate film?

Kevin: I've worked on a couple of films. Porno is ten times less work. I think you learn so many bad habits in porno, you could never use that as a bridge to get into pro stuff.

B.A.R.: How has porn affected your love life?

Kevin: It's always complemented at the beginning, because they're amused at seeing me in a movie. But after a while, they don't think a thing of it. It's like, "You go do your movie. I'll clean the house."

I like to keep porn as a hobby.

A financially rewarding hobby. Do more camerawork in the future. But I don't want it to take away from my main profession. Artificial insemination.

B.A.R.: Who didn't know that? It seems you suffer a dual identity kind of thing because of the whole porno thing.

Kevin: Yes. That's because there's a whole stigma attached. Not because of homosexuality, but the porn. During the whole Anita Bryant thing, there was the legal problems. Some of the new stars—Lou Cass' whole family is proud of him. Vladimir Cory, he goes back to Brazil with tons of money. His family thinks it's great. You run into these characters. Their families are very liberal.

Now don't miss Mr. Steve's & Wee-Wee's Playhouse on Mondays, Channel 25, at 7 p.m., and in Manhattan at 8 p.m. Coming soon to a theater near you, *Bijou's Sexy Billy Blue*, starring Lou Cass. It's *Toby's*, but *R. Stilt-skin* is shooting it."

Kevin just can't ignore the chance for a plug.

Kevin Gladstone's reviews run from "a stalking, in-heat panther" to "gaunt, old, and tired." Check him out!



Don't forget the tribute to Empress Sable Aug. 20 at the San Franciscan.

Friese

(Continued from page 35)
you can drive.

Another of the Emperor's "Boys' Night Out" parties will happen at the Mint Wednesday, Aug. 17, at 7 p.m. Steven's co-host will be Emperor Chuck Demmon VIH A.N., and there will be a chili cook-off, dancing, a 50/50 raffle, and numerous other surprises, all as a benefit for Project Open Hand. Wonder if Mr. S.F. Cowboy will be there, seeing as how he has to decide if he wants

to finish the reign he was elected to or go for another title. Whoa, Nelly!

Thursday, the 18th, there will be a benefit auction at Uncle Bert's Place for Steve Cook, a good friend of the community who has been ill. This will take place from 7:30 p.m. 'til . . . ?

Jim Baroni of Castro Station recently put together a seminar for his employees and their friends that included a doctor and lawyer both explaining in detail the importance and how of getting your affairs in order.

Good going, Jim.

Scandals, that flawless new nightclub on Turk Street with the clever and quick-witted Empress Mae guiding the entertainment, features an open mike every Tuesday at 9 p.m. Every Wednesday at 9:30 and 11:30, they present "Scandalipps. . . A Damn Good Drag Show." Don't miss the Sharon Jackson show at 11 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 19.

Who was this Portlandite at the Hob Nob looking for Kissy Face? Rumor has it that Kissy Face is known by another name and works in the wine country.

Tickets are now out at these participating bars for Bar Wars: New Bell, Gangway, Mother Lode, Polk Gulch Saloon, Reflections, Q.T. II, Rendezvous, Cinch, and Kimo's. Those are the bars that we will be touring on our "Lip Synchronism" pub crawl Sunday, Aug. 28, starting at 10 a.m. at the New Belle. A book of tickets, which entitles you to a complimentary drink and chance at three raffle prizes while there, is only \$10, with all the proceeds going to the Godfather Service Fund thanks to the sponsorship of the flyers and tickets by the New Bell and Kimo's. There will also be a raffle for a beautiful gay flag afghan, donated by June Starling, with tickets for \$1 each.



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People



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Asian? Slim/young? I'm 29, 6', 165#, & gdlkg. 979-4504. E32

RUNAWAY? CASTAWAY?
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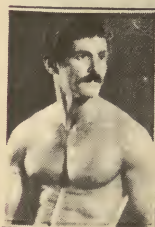
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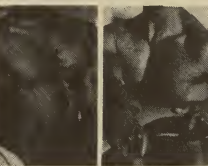
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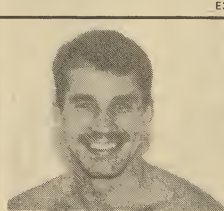
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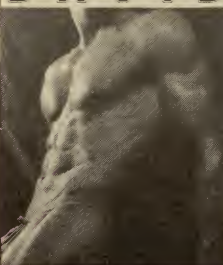
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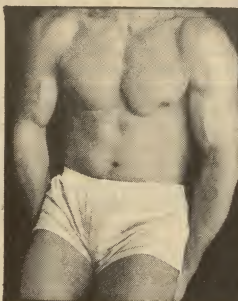
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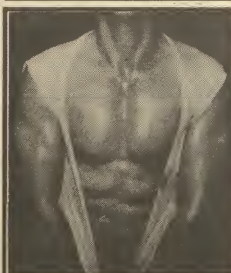
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

SOFTBALL

Amelia's Tops Beaches; Pendulum, Endup Roll

by Hal Herkenhoff

The 1988 Gay Softball League playoffs started its first three-division format with some surprises and two late afternoon thrillers last weekend, causing many spectators to wonder when was the last time they had seen such competitive games.

Amelia's took over the driver's seat in the women's division and moved into the championship game next Sunday at Jackson Field with a convincing 7-1 win over archrival and defending champion Superstar Video Beaches. Later, the Beaches eliminated Cassidy's in a close 9-7 game to enter the final round against Amelia's, but will have to win the 11:30 a.m. rematch and then the extra game at 2:30 p.m. to earn the right to represent San Francisco at the Gay World Series in Dallas later this month.

As expected, in the men's division the Pendulum rolled to two wins, first over the S.F. Eagle and later over the Kokpit, while Terry Brooks and the Endup humbled the Cafe Sn Marcos with 29 hits to remain undefeated for next week's tournament continuation. These two teams ended one-two in the final standings this year and battled for the title last year, as they probably will do in the championships of this year's eliminations.

The men's division began the day with eight teams and there are now only six left in the



The post-game party at Uncle Bert's.

(Photo: Rink)

double-elimination format. But the two that lost went down in exciting fashion in the two best games of the weekend.

First, the underdog S.F. Eagle jumped out to an early lead against Uncle Bert's Place and managed to hold an 8-5 lead until Bert's pulled even in the bottom of the sixth inning. Despite both teams loading the bases in the seventh frame neither side could score, and the tension mounted for each team as the game was forced into extra innings. The Eagle did score in the eighth inning, and Bert's pushed across one run quickly to re-tie the score and set up the heroics. Following two more singles, Rick "Rita" Brattin, three-time GSL commissioner, dropped a deep hit to left, over the fielder's head, and his three-run homer pulled it out for Bert's and eliminated a disappointed, but worthy, Eagle team.

Cafe Sn Marcos and The Galleon used nearly the same script. The underdog Cafe Cruisers grabbed a 7-0 lead after three innings only to see their old nemesis Galleon pull ahead 10-9 after rallying down to the wire to avoid elimination. But the Cafe Sn Marcos had the last at-bat and, thanks to Jonathan Tower's triple and RBI, had the last say in another down-to-the-wire finish to win it 11-10 and move on to next week's action while ending the season for the stunned Galleon.

In the relaxed recreational tournament, the Rainbow Roos showed that no favorite can take things for granted and were surprised by the Rawhide Men, 13-7, leaving spectators wondering why the Roos had rested three top players for the game. Meanwhile, The Mint took no such liberties and easily moved into the championship game, await-

ing the rematch between the Roos and The Rawhide to see which team will represent San Francisco from this division at the Dallas Gay World Series.

More elimination games will be held this Saturday, Aug. 13, at Rossi Field (Arguello and Anza streets) leading to the three championship games on the following day, Sunday the 14th, at Jackson Field (17th and Arkansas streets).

Since this will be your last chance to see the best gay/lesbian softball players in San Francisco this year, bring a lunch and a friend and come out to the old ball game! (Continued on page 44)

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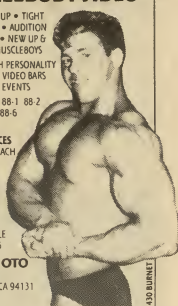
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An Amelia's player rounds the bases. (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

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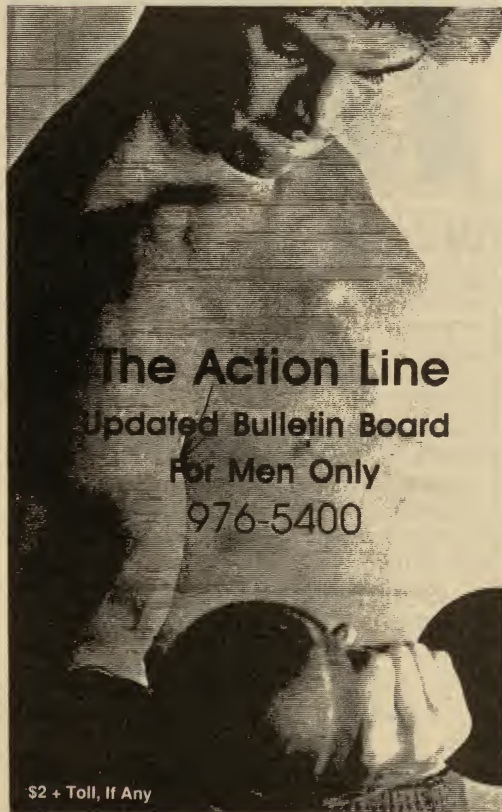
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BOWLING

Pro Bowler Joins Tavern Guild Ranks



(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

by Richard McPherson

No one has ever entered a gay league in San Francisco with a 200 average, so there was much curiosity about Kevin Schwabe when he joined the Rams Head Bar team in the Wednesday Tavern Guild League (TGL) this summer season with a 208 average. Rumors abounded about his former professional status. After 33 games in the Park Bowl league he is averaging 211. On Wednesday, July 20, Kevin put together games of 264, 241, 224 for a 729 series, his first 700 in a Park Bowl league, but by no means a life-time high.

Indeed, Schwabe is still a card-carrying member of the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA), although it has been a couple of years since he bowled in a PBA tourney. Kevin turned pro at the age of 18 and was on tour for two years, from 1979-80. His best tournament finish was a 6th-place, \$8,000 win.

For Kevin, being on tour was an experience he will always remember. In fact, he said, "It was a thrill of a lifetime. Traveling from city to city with the crowds watching you bowl," he said, was a real high.

"I wasn't prepared for the experience of travelling so much," said the soft-spoken 28-year-old. The hot and cold extremes of weather, the changes in altitude, and fluctuating diet were a challenge to deal with, aside from the extreme variations in lane conditions.

It was also a thrill, he said, bowling with some of the bowling greats, such as Earl Anthony and Marshal Holman. One of the drawbacks, he felt, as a young bowler was that he spent a lot of time partying while on tour. This tended to break his focus at times.

In his last tournament he pulled a tendon in his wrist, which prevented him from bowling the 20-30 games a pro shoots each day. The tour still has a lot of appeal for Kevin and he would like to go on the pro circuit again some day if he felt his wrist were strong enough.

Schwabe moved to San Francisco from Newport Beach in February of this year, although he is originally from Wisconsin, where he had his best-ever season of bowling. Back in the late '70s, while still a teenager, he finished a 90-game league season with a 227 average. He has had a total of six 300 games, and a high league series of 826 on games of 265, 300, 261, a series which included 22 strikes in a row.

Schwabe feels his greatest achievement, though, was when he averaged 256 for ten games to win an adult summer classic tournament in Pennsylvania. His winnings: \$21,000. What made this feat truly amazing was that he was a 14-year-old who weighed in at 250 lbs. ("Yeah, I was a real porker at the time," he laughed.) His score was the highest ever shot in the 40+ year history of the tournament.

The Wednesday TGL is Schwabe's first gay league. The gay organizations in other cities in which he has lived did not allow a PBA member to join. He is also not allowed to compete in International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO) tournaments for the same reason. San Francisco leagues do not have the same ruling.

"I was in the Midnight Sun one night and overheard two guys talking about bowling," he said. They needed someone for their team and decided to let him join, even though Schwabe told them he wasn't very good. They soon learned he was pulling their legs.

Schwabe has been a natural bowler all his life, starting at the age of five. His father owned a bowling establishment, so he spent all his free time practicing. He achieved professional status without ever having a coach. Lately, though, he has allowed TGL members to benefit from his expertise by offering lessons to fellow bowlers.

Kevin is enjoying bowling in the Wednesday TGL and plans on continuing. He has his sights set on participating in 1990's Gay Games and is currently looking into rulings about participants with professional status. If all is go for him, Schwabe will be a primary contender for bringing the gold back to San Francisco.

For now, though, merely by his presence, Kevin is setting a new standard of excellence and pride for local gay bowlers.

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES

Team Standings

MONDAY TAVERN GUILD

	W	L
1. Pilsner Pinguins	30	18
2. Frantic Finishers III	30	18
3. Park Bowl	28	30
4. Rolo's	27	21
5. Castro Station	27	21
6. Wee Willie Kokpit	25	23
7. Welcome Home	25	23
8. Rawhide II	25	23
9. Pendulum Devils	23	25
10. Roommatters	22	26
11. What's My Line	21	27
12. Lambda Capital	21	27
13. Pet Stop Cocktails	20	28
14. Jack Trux I	17	31

MONDAY TRIOS

	W	L
1. Pilsner Pinguins	40	16
2. The Fart Blossoms	36	20
3. S. F. Eagle	33	23
4. Cafe Sn Marcos	32½	23½
5. Main Course	32½	23½
6. S.F. Eagle Scouts	31	25
7. Pilsner Pin Pals	31	25
8. All American	30½	25½

9. Peewee's Playhouse	29½	26½
10. Capricorn Coffees	29	27
11. Stud Puppets	28	28
12. Unholy Rollers	27½	28½
13. Park Bowl	27	29
14. Bowler Types	27	29
15. Bobbie Pins	26	30
16. Play With It Ltd	25	31
17. Gough Balls	24	32
18. Inches	23	33
19. Give Me Griets	21½	34½
20. Pig Bitches	21	35
21. Pet Stop	20	36
22. Pin Curls	19	37

WEDNESDAY TAVERN GUILD

	W	L
1. Play With It, Ltd	49	15
2. The Leftovers	44	20
3. Bow-K	43	21
4. Pendulum	43	21
5. Park Bowl	37½	26½
6. Rolo's	36	28
7. Pilsner #1	36	28
8. Pilsner Pintless Sisters	34½	29½
9. Schmidt & Schmidt	32½	31½
10. 9 Eyes Only	32	32

11. Michael Brunos	30	34
12. Pilsner E-Z Pickup	29	35
13. Pendulum Pandas	28½	35½
14. Revenue of Pilsners	27½	36½
15. Rams and Eue	27	37
16. Ram's Head Bar	27	37
17. The Bear	24	40
18. Pilsner Quackers	20	40
19. D.K.'s Unmntnables	20	44
20. Gutter Girls	16½	43½

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD

	W	L
1. Park Bowl	50½	13½
2. Play With It, Ltd.	38	26
3. Superstar Video	35½	28½
4. Hit Your Mark	35	29
5. Inches	34	30
6. S.F. Eagle	33½	30½
7. Trax Trash	33	31
8. Pilsner 4 Play	32	32
9. All Da Rite Stuff	30½	33½
10. Styles & Staymens	29	35
11. Trax	27½	36½
12. Bob, Ted, Carol & Alice	27	37
13. Is It Over Yet?	27	37
14. No Jackie	12½	51½

All-Cal Swim Meet in West Hollywood in September

WEST HOLLYWOOD—West Hollywood Aquatics (WH20) is sponsoring its first swim meet and water polo competition on Saturday, Sept. 24, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The meet is sanctioned by Southern California Masters Association, and all Masters rules will apply. All record times will be valid.

In keeping with its philosophy that sports is about inclusion, rather than exclusion, WH20 is extending an invitation to compete to any registered Masters swimmer in California, as well as to any friends of the team living outside the state. The meet will take place at the Roosevelt Pool, located at 456 S. Mathews in East Los Angeles.

The Roosevelt Pool—a beautifully kept 50-meter pool—was originally built as an Olympic training facility for the Southern California region and is now maintained by Metro Aquatics as part of its community pool system. The pool can be configured for 25-yard short-course competition and has all the necessary water polo equipment, which makes it ideal for this particular meet.

Although there are any number of national and international meets for gay and lesbian swimmers and water polo players throughout the year, organized under the aegis of ICLA (International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics), this is the first meet which has been specifically organized to encourage participation by swimmers throughout the length and breadth of California, from all the diverse communities in the state.

WH20 is particularly interested in attracting participants from areas outside the San Diego-Los Angeles-San Francisco axis, where large, well-organized Masters teams already exist. WH20 is expecting over 100 participants and encourages gay and lesbian, experienced and first-time swimmers from anywhere in California to enter long and short distance events by age group. For entry forms, contact Tom Wilson at (213) 667-0702.

In addition to the meet, WH20, under the guidance of meet director Dave Palmer and his various committees, is planning an exciting weekend of social and community events beginning on Friday evening, Sept. 24, with a party hosted by Cheers, an exciting new bar in West Hollywood. After the meet on Saturday, not one but two events are planned: drinks and buffet at Rafter's, followed by a dance party executed by those party planners extraordinaire, Young Men's Dance Club (YMDC).

Sunday morning will be devoted to the big fundraiser of the fall season, the AIDS Walk, which each year raises over \$1 million for AIDS Project Los Angeles. After the walk, it's off to the beach for a "Sun and Fun Picnic" at Will Rogers State Park.

The excitement of the meet itself will be heightened by a raffle offering many terrific prizes including a vacation in Palm Springs, books, videos, clothing, gift certificates, and a grand prize of a compact disc player. Maybe one of the guest celebrities will draw your lucky number!

Of course, unique commemorative T-shirts designed by one of Los Angeles' up-and-coming artists, Miguel Reyes, and WH20 Sparkling Water—be the first in

your neighborhood to serve it!—will be available for purchase. All entrants will receive participation pins, and the water polo team, the "Pacific Fleet," has a trophy waiting for this year's winning team. All this promises to add up to a weekend you won't want to miss, so sign up now! And sign up your friends, too.

West Hollywood Aquatics was chartered by Southern Pacific Masters Association as West Hollywood Swim Club in 1982. It was founded by members of the Los Angeles Swim Team to Gay Games I. WH20 is the first Masters swim team in the world which actively recruits gay and lesbian swimmers. However, it welcomes anyone who loves to swim, dive, or play water polo and counts among its members many friends of the community who all share the same love of aquatics.

For further information about West Hollywood Aquatics, please call Richard DeFabees, president, at (213) 663-0727. ●

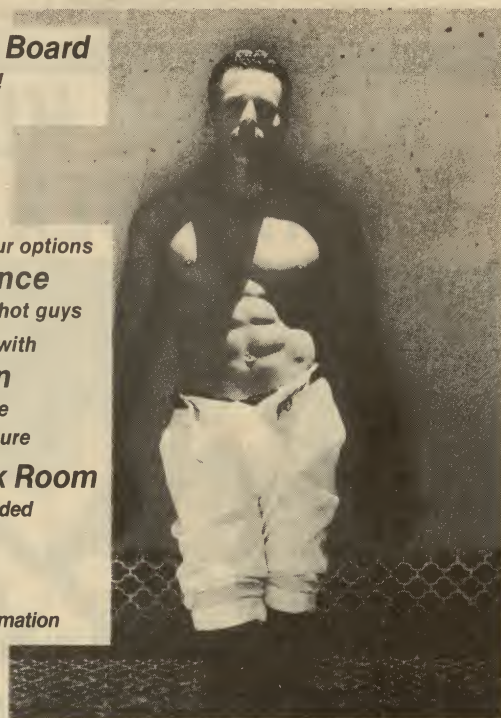


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IGRA Presents October Rodeo

RENO, NV—The International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) will present its second annual International Gay Rodeo finals in Reno on Oct. 19-23. Nevada's Silver State Gay Rodeo Association will be the host organization for this event.

The top ten cowboys and cowgirls from across the country will be competing for the international titles in each of the events. The finalists (five from each of IGRA's two divisions) will be selected based on their performances at the six IGRA-sanctioned rodeos held this year.

In addition to the rodeo, there will be several dances and festival activities for visitors. The events held at the IGRA finals rodeo include: bull riding, bareback bronc riding, wild cow riding, chute (steer) dogging, team roping, breakaway calf roping, calf roping on foot, barrel racing, pole bending, flag race, goat decorating, steer decorating, and wild drag race.

The first gay rodeo on the IGRA circuit was held in 1983 in Colorado and was followed the next year with rodeos in Texas and California. The circuit now

includes rodeos in Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona, and two in California. Nine state associations strong at present, the IGRA is expecting to see even further growth at its international convention this month in Fort Worth, Texas, with the seating of additional state associations.

For more information, call Les Krambeal, (702) 746-1660, or Bob Atkinson, (702) 849-0527. Travel and motel information may be obtained from Sam Koe, (800) 234-7686. ●



(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

AIDS Foundation Food Bank Drive At Central YMCA

The Central YMCA at 220 Golden Gate Ave. in San Francisco is sponsoring a drive for the AIDS Foundation's Food Bank through Aug. 13.

The success of this initial drive is extremely important. If you're a member of the Y, please bring a contribution of a can of food or other necessary item when you visit.

If you are not a member, please help this project be a success and stop by with a contribution.

The volunteer in charge is Roland St. Pierre, who can be reached by leaving a message at the Central YMCA, 885-0460 ext. 281. ●

Turn a New Leaf! Picnic With Gay, Lesbian Veggies

Gay and Lesbian Vegetarians are having a gala picnic on Aug. 13 at Lindley Meadow in Golden Gate Park. The picnic area is located down JFK Drive near 30th Avenue.

Featured at the picnic will be vegetarian hotdogs, dairyless potato salad, music, and games.

There will be a discussion about the beneficial effects a meatless diet has on the body's immune system.

Members of GLV come from

the greater Monterey/San Francisco Bay regions. GLV potlucks offer vegetarian food in a fun, relaxed atmosphere, recipe exchanges, and resource materials for area events.

This potluck will be the eighth event sponsored by GLV. Recent gatherings have been held in Santa Cruz, San Francisco, and Palo Alto. There is no charge for attending the potlucks. A vegetarian health dish is requested of those attending.

For directions to the picnic or for more information, call Robert at (415) 931-6585 or Rick at (408) 336-3255 or contact GLV, P.O. Box 7971, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. ●



A Mint player rounds second.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

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Softball

(Continued from page 41)

MEN'S TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Kokpit 12, Uncle Bert's Place 9
Pilsner Inn 14, Galleon 5
Pendulum 15, S.F. Eagle 5
Endup 25, Cafe Sn Marcos 7
Uncle Bert's 12, S.F. Eagle 9
(8 innings, S.F. Eagle eliminated)
Cafe Sn Marcos 11, Galleon 10
(Galleon eliminated)
Pendulum 14, Kokpit 6

NEXT WEEK

Saturday, Aug. 13
Rossi Field, Arguello at Anza St.
11:30 a.m. Endup/Pilsner
1:00 p.m. Uncle Bert's/Kokpit
2:30 p.m. Cafe Sn Marcos vs. loser
Endup/Pilsner
4:00 p.m. TBA

Sunday, Aug. 14

Jackson Field, 17th & Arkansas
8:30 a.m. Pendulum vs. winner of Endup/Pilsner
10:00 a.m. TBA
1:00 p.m. Championship Game #1
4:00 a.m. Championship Game #2
(only if necessary)

WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Amelia's 13, Rawhide Women 3
Superstar Video 9, Cassidy's 1
Cassidy's 6, Rawhide Women 2
(Rawhide eliminated)
Amelia's 7, Superstar Video 1
Superstar 9, Cassidy's 7
(Cassidy's eliminated)

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, Aug. 14
Jackson Field, 17th & Arkansas
11:30 a.m. Amelia's/Superstar Video
2:30 p.m. 2nd game if Superstar wins

RECREATIONAL TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The Mint 13, Cassidy's 1
Rawhide Men 15, Phone Booth 3
Rawhide Men 13, Rainbow Roos 7
Cassidy's 7, Phone Booth 2
(Phone Booth eliminated)
Rainbow Roos 13, Cassidy's 3
(Cassidy's eliminated)
The Mint 20, Rawhide Men 5

NEXT WEEK

Saturday, Aug. 13
9:30 a.m. Roos/Rawhide Men
Sunday, Aug. 14
11:30 a.m. The Mint vs. Roos/Rawhide winner
1:00 p.m. 2nd game if necessary. ●

Campbell

(Continued from page 29)

House once, lifted him by the ears, and proclaimed him a "great Dane." As many times as I've heard him tell it, I still dissolved with laughter.

The slow progress to center stage, the hawklike glance at the audience, and then the sudden exhalation of a huge puff of smoke; the query as to whether there are children in the house, and the stern banishment of them with a bellowed "OUT!"; the falls from the piano bench and the awful puns remain vintage Victor Borge, though he actually managed to include a few bits I was unfamiliar with.

A hilarious sendup of operatic Mozart and a deliciously silly romp through some four-handed piano with the game assistance of Sahan Arzruni will likely be seen many times again, but who would have it any other way? Borge still demonstrates his considerable ability in rare flashes of pianistic brilliance, though the technique is less facile than before. He is, after all, 79 years old, and he still cuts a handsome figure and manages pratfalls that might lame a man half his age.

After Victor Borge's appearance last year, a friend said she hoped she would go before he does. I agree. A world without the gentle and inouciant charms of Victor Borge, or Pearl Bailey, will be a world immeasurably diminished. ●

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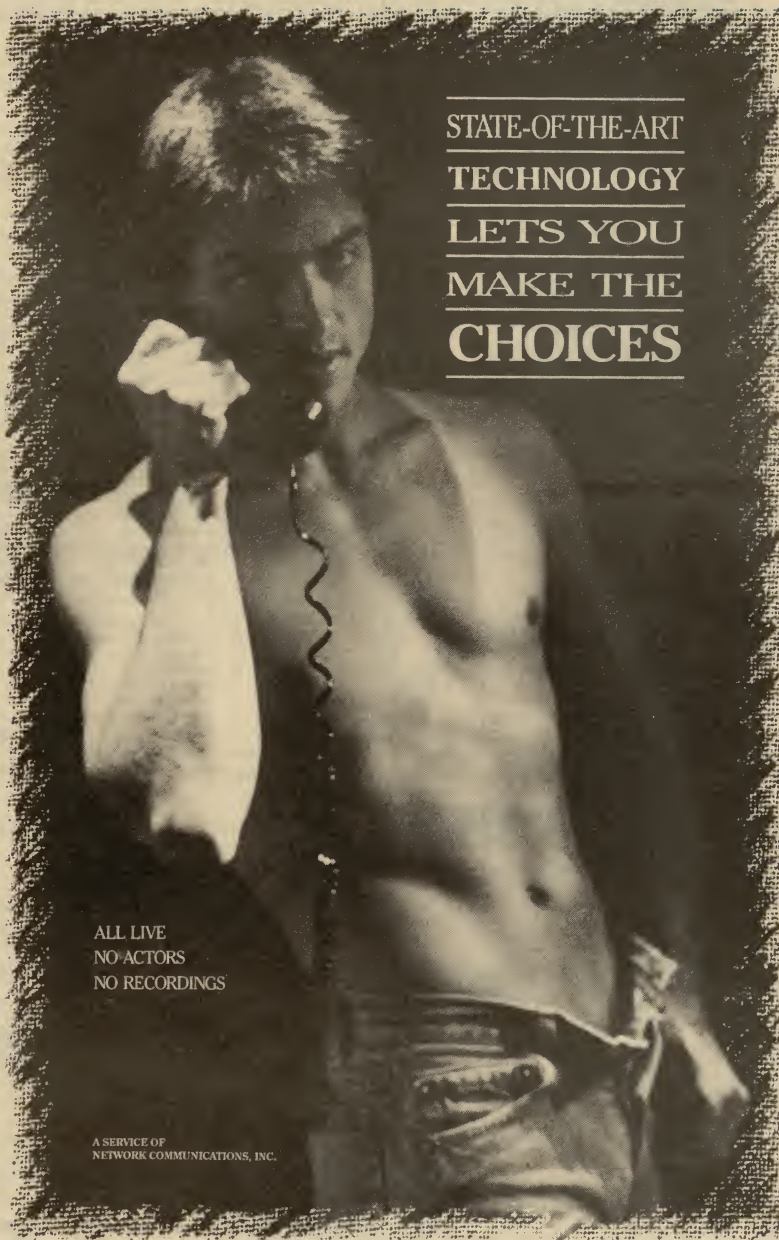
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